



COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Formosa Straits

NEWS from London that "ceasefire efforts" have reached a deadlock is less a cause for pessimism than the reports would seem to suggest. The words "ceasefire efforts" are, in this sense, not sufficiently explicit to convey the true nature of the proceedings in Moscow and Peking between British, Indian, Chinese and Soviet diplomats. Talks there have been certainly but these were more of an informal nature and were designed chiefly to clarify the Communist attitude. Obviously interested Western parties now know the basic requirements the Communists are demanding as a preliminary to formal ceasefire talks. This is an essential prerequisite to the calling of a new East-West conference. It may be argued that the moment is inopportune for such talks for undoubtedly the greatest stumbling block (and it has been all along) is the failure to bring an end to the island war off the China coast.

UNLESS and until the West is able to provide some guarantee that these rocky outcrops will be abandoned as points of needless aggravation, the essential preliminary of reducing tension cannot be fulfilled. It is doubtful whether any alternative has been or can be seriously considered. The onus is therefore thrown back on to Washington for some conciliatory gesture. Meanwhile, American policy on retaliation in the event of an attack upon Matsau and Quemoy continues to be vague and it is possible to read into recent State Department statements the possibility of a major crisis in the event of a Communist attack. Possibly this will not eventuate for some months—at least until China is militarily prepared. The Nationalists and their allies therefore may have a breathing space which they would be foolish not to utilise by withdrawing from an ultimately untenable position—in the interests of world peace.

OF interest is the suggestion that Australia may play some role as "mediator between America and India" in the Formosa situation. The suggestion that two Commonwealth countries, though apparently far apart in their views on this problem, might be able to achieve agreement where plain speaking between America and Britain has so far failed is specious. Yet the move opens up various possibilities and the likelihood of Australia acting as a moderating influence upon Washington (even in her presentation of India's "peace-making" case) offers a new and possibly optimistic prospect.

The reported ceasefire plan discussed in Washington between Mr. Menzies and the American administration is termed "new". In fact, it is not. Disengagement of skirmishing between Nationalists and Communists is a principle which Britain has consistently advocated and the only importance in the enunciation of this principle in Washington lies in whether America has accepted the view that the coastal war must be brought to an end by the renunciation of the islands.

The re-emergence of the two China concept at this stage of the proceedings is, unfortunately, it is an idea Britain has consistently rejected and it will not endear the Communists to any ceasefire plan if they consider that it entails the preservation of the Nationalists as an isolated, yet hostile political faction vying with Peking for the affection of China's teeming millions.

NEW FORMOSA



MR MENZIES

Bevan's
Dismissal
Rumpus

London, Mar. 20. Uproar broke out at a meeting of the Scottish Council of the Labour Party in Glasgow on Sunday when delegates objected to the chairman's refusal to accept a motion protesting against the exclusion of left-wing leader Mr. Aneurin Bevan from the Parliamentary Labour Party. The chairman declared that the meeting was solely to examine questions of Labour policy. Party-President Dr. Edith Summerskill added that for the general good, majority decisions should be respected. PROPOSAL CRITICISED Mr. Morgan Phillips, Secretary of the British Labour Party, today described as "nothing less than an attempt to form a party within a party" the plans of the Margate branch of the Labour Party to call a conference for May 15 to discuss the expulsion of left-wing leader Mr. Aneurin Bevan. Mr. Phillips said, "If the project is proceeded with, it will be a matter of serious concern to the National Executive, and does appear to be nothing less than an attempt to form a party within a party." The Margate Labour Party branch announced yesterday it would call for the conference of local sections to be held at Margate. Mr. Bevan was expelled last Wednesday from the Labour Party Parliamentary Group on a charge of lack of discipline. —France-Press.

4 LOSE LIVES
IN FLOODS

Peshawar, Mar. 20. Four people have lost their lives and scores were reported missing in severe floods in Shindbarra, Afghanistan, messages reaching here today stated. Hundreds had lost their homes. Small tributaries of the Helmand River, in the south, near Grishik, were reported on the rampage, and to have caused severe damage to property. Reliable reports, describing the destruction in dozens of villages in the Shindbarra area, said that houses were being washed away or had collapsed. —France-Press.

ASSASSINATION PLOT:
THREE ARRESTS MADE

Hyderabad, Mar. 20. Mr. Ghulam Ali Talpur of the Sind Provincial Assembly and two prominent Assembly members were arrested tonight in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate provincial ministers and create widespread disturbances in the Province. An official announcement said the other two men arrested were Mr. Ali Naas Talpur, the Speaker's brother, and Mr. M. B. B. — former Chief Minister of Sind Province. More arrests were expected. Opposition leaders said tonight warrants had been issued for the arrest of five other Assembly members. Mr. Mohammed Ali Khan, Sind Chief Minister, said earlier tonight the investigation was being carried out by the C.I.D. The Government Intelligence Department may be called in if necessary, he said. Meanwhile, Opposition leaders said yesterday's announcement of the plot's discovery was a move "to terrify and victimise the Sind people" who are opposed to the present provincial administration. —Reuter.

Evolved
By Eisenhower
& Menzies
TWO OBJECTIVES

Washington, Mar. 20. Mr. R. G. Menzies, the Australian Prime Minister, flew from Washington today on his way back to Canberra to report to the Cabinet on a new plan for ending tension in Asia and particularly the "little war" in the Formosa Strait. He was seen off by Mr. John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State, and as the two statesmen shook hands at the airport, they were overheard to agree that the Prime Minister's visit had been "of the utmost importance and very valuable." Mr. Menzies will give details of the plan to a special meeting of the Australian Cabinet on March 30.

The new formula was worked out in a week of conferences between Mr. Menzies, President Eisenhower, Mr. Dulles and other United States leaders. Details are secret, but the objectives of the plan are: Disengagement of the skirmishing between Nationalist and Communist Chinese forces in the Formosa Strait.

2. A formal or de facto ceasefire, with the possibility of two Chinas being recognised in world councils. Mr. Menzies will spend two days in San Francisco before flying on to Canberra. He has left himself free of official engagements and was expected to spend most of his time on the west coast working out his report to the Cabinet.

Observers here said today that the Prime Minister left Washington with the personal conviction that President Eisenhower would do anything to avoid war with the Chinese Communists short of compromising the international integrity of the United States.

BIGGER COMMITMENTS No communique was issued at the end of the conference, but Mr. Dulles told reporters today that he would have something to say about them at his weekly press conference next Tuesday. One of the most important aspects of the Washington talks from the Australian viewpoint was the projected increased defence commitments Australia will assume in the Western Pacific, observers said.

This will include commitments in Malaysia and a major role for Darwin in Northern Australia as a potential allied air base. Observers believe that the role allotted to New Zealand, Australia and British forces to be stationed in Malaysia would be that of shock troops. Their primary task would be to move quickly into positions to support local forces attacked by Communist forces. The United States was reported to have undertaken to hold available but uncommitted, powerful units to help fill the power vacuum south of Communist China.

TACTICAL FORCE One of these mobile units would be a tactically atomic bombing force now stationed in Manila. These flexible units would move quickly to Malaysia, air bases which the British Commonwealth forces have undertaken to enlarge and modernise. Mr. Menzies was authoritatively reported to have reached substantial agreement with President Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles on the use of tactical atomic weapons in the event of a major Communist attack. —Reuter.

Dorothy
Leaves For
London

Jampala, Uganda, Mar. 20. Dorothy, four-year-old daughter of the Kabaka of Buganda, left Entebbe by air today for London, where she will be treated for the after-effects of an attack of polio myelitis. "Thousands" of Africans, singing the Buganda national anthem, gathered at the airport to see her off. The child will stay in London with her father. She will be treated for paralysis, which has affected her legs. —Reuter.

Both Sides
Censured

Tel-Aviv, Mar. 20. The Mixed Armistice Commission today censured both Egypt and Israel for border incidents following the Gaza flare up now before the United Nations Security Council.

The Commission condemned Egypt for an "act of aggression" on March 13 when a "trained group of Egyptians" crossed the demarcation line into Israel and mined a track, destroying a lorry.

Israel was condemned for an incident on March 9 when an Israeli patrol fired across the lines. They wounded an Arab farmer and later crossed the lines to capture him and take him back into Israel.

The Commission requested Israel to return the farmer to Egypt immediately. —Reuter.

Agitation To
Annul Clause

Washington, Mar. 20. The opinion polls to be steadily gathered around in America are now being called for by the Government of the United States.

Pentagon officials have been emphasizing now for some time that the United Nations forces in Korea would be perfectly justified in securing this settlement because of "constant violations" of the truce in question by North Korea.

Reports available in Washington said some 40 new airfields had been built in North Korea since the signing of the Panmunjom armistice. China was said to have increased North Korea's war potential after the armistice with supplies of large numbers of jet planes, tanks and heavy cannons. —Reuter.

STRAITS PLAN

South Vietnam Cauldron:
Leader Of Private Army
Predicts Hostilities

Saigon, Mar. 20. General Bacut, youthful leader of the Hoa Hao Buddhist sect, which is defying the Government of Roman Catholic Premier Ngo Dinh Diem, predicted today that heavy and widespread fighting would break out in South Vietnam by the end of March.

The 31-year-old war lord interviewed in his headquarters in the Mekong delta, said Diem planned to launch a big operation against him and he would fight back.

Reporters reached his hideout by travelling in a boat along a maze of tree-lined waterways. With his long-flowing hair, handsome and boyish face and mystical deep-set eyes, Bacut looked more like a prophet or poet than a renowned soldier. He outlined the position of his forces on military units. He showed reporters the captured battle order of the Vietnamese army written on an official note paper which, he said, was signed by the Chief of Staff, General Le Van Ty. (It was dated March 9 and said the Vietnamese army would launch a series of operations against Bacut using one division — about 7,000 men — of Nung troops from the borders of China and one airborne group — probably about 1,000 men).

HIS ARMY Bacut said fighting with army troops began yesterday, but it was not serious. If Diem attacked him in force, he would be given immediate command of the entire Hoa Hao army to fight back, he added.

This is believed to number about 10,000 troops, in addition to Bacut's own force estimated at 3,000. The war lord said the Nungs and airborne troops had not yet reached his area. (One-third of a Nung division stationed 110 miles northeast of Saigon moved to the Saigon region last week).

But more than 30 battalions of the Vietnamese national army were stationed in his area, which he said stretched southwest of the Bassac river from Ho Tien on the Cambodian frontier to Ca Mau on the southern tip of Indo-China. Bacut said the national army held old towns in the region but he ruled in the country side.

INFERIOR MORALE Though the National Army was better equipped than his own, he was confident he would win any battle because "the morale of the National Army is much inferior to that of Hoa Hao as they know Diem's government is not a national government."

"It is a family government in foreign pay," Bacut declared. Bacut said Vietnam must unite under a Government of National Unity to fight the Communists. He thought only military conquest would uproot the Communists from Hanoi and North Vietnam.

But he said Diem had been absent from Vietnam during the greater part of the Indo-China conflict and had no right to come back with foreign aid and replace men who had led the people against Colonialism and Communism. Asked if he would meet President Eisenhower's Ambassador to Vietnam, General Lawton Collins, he replied "not unless he renounced Diem first."

ABSORBING ARMIES Bacut said he had no quarrel with the Americans provided they wanted to help a National Government here to fight Communism. But, if their policy was to help Diem suppress religious sects and their private armies, he was against the United States.

Private armies should be absorbed into the National Army when the Government of National Unity has been formed and elections held to ascertain the will of the people. Asked if private armies which have hitherto quarrelled and fought among themselves could not unite to help form a government, he said he was sure they could.

Bacut agreed that all leaders of sects might not be so honest and high-minded as he was himself. But, he said, they would work for the benefit of Vietnam more efficiently than the present government. An idealist himself, Bacut has allowed his hair to grow ever since the Geneva armistice last year until now, it is said, is a sign of mourning at the

Ordeal
Of Starving
Refugees

London, Mar. 20. Starving refugees in the Spanish vessel Antonia de Dapower were limited to one spoonful each of flour in a glass of water per day for nine days when the 24-foot-long craft ran out of food, the ship's captain said in Georgetown, British Guiana, today.

The vessel left the Spanish-owned Canary Islands, off North Africa, on February 28 for Venezuela, where the refugees hoped to settle. On board were 40 refugees, including one woman, and a crew of seven.

The captain, Juan Renevier Bouilla, had tears in his eyes when he told the dramatic story today. He said mutiny and bloodshed were narrowly averted in mid-Atlantic, but everyone showed respect for the lone woman, who refused special privileges for herself. Bouilla stated that on three occasions desperate refugees threatened to throw him into the sea. High winds and unceasing rain made conditions in the cramped boat harder, Bouilla added. When the vessel drifted into the Barbaco River, 60 miles from here, a Catholic priest, Canadian-born Father Bernard Kirby, took food to the refugees. —France-Press.

Women MPs To Launch Debate London, Mar. 20. Women members will launch the House of Commons on a debate on Tuesday about the effects of atomic explosions on generations still unborn. The Labour Party has put forward a motion which Dr. Edith Summerskill, the Party's National Chairman, will move expressing fear of "dangers facing humanity as a result of continued radioactive contamination of the world's atmosphere, particularly to future generations who may bear children mutilated by genetic injury."

The motion, originally sponsored by eight women members and since adopted officially by the Labour Party, calls for a conference of American, French, Soviet and British scientists to advise on the danger facing mankind. —Reuter.

Disastrous End
To Quarrel

Nantes, France, Mar. 20. A quarrel between 38-year-old M. Eugene Guillot and his wife blew the roof off their house at Pont Rousseau near here. Police reported today that Madame Guillot pulled the pipe off a cylinder of gas for the kitchen stove when her husband threatened her with a gun. M. Guillot threw the cylinder out of the window. But a fire in the room exploded the escaping gas, brought the ceiling down, wrecked furniture and blew the roof off. M. Guillot was taken to hospital and his wife was slightly injured in the face. Their next door neighbours were dug out "unhurt from a pile of plaster." China Mail Special.

Dog Rounds Up
Hooligans

London, Mar. 20. Eleven youths were rounded up like sheep and driven along a road into the police station at Kingston, Surrey, last night by one police dog. The youths were creating a disturbance when the dog, Vicky and his handler, Constable Herbert Higgs, arrived on the scene. Immediately Vicky bounded forward, herding the youths into a tight little group, then running round and round and barking at their heels, he drove them along the road and into the police station. Constable Higgs followed.

The youths will appear in court next. Vicky was charged with using "unlawful force" to drive the youths into the station. Constable Higgs was charged with using "unlawful force" to drive the youths into the station. —China Mail Special.

Aruba May
Turn Over
Cargo In
Mid-Ocean

Helsinki, Mar. 20. Informed shipping circles said today that the Finnish tanker Aruba may transfer its cargo of jet fuel to a Communist tanker in international waters "about the middle of this week."

A Finnish Seamen's Union spokesman said the Aruba crew would not protest against turning over the cargo to another tanker in the open sea.

"The only thing they refuse to do is to go beyond the Nicobar Islands and the reason is the danger of Chinese Nationalist naval forces attacking the vessel," said the spokesman.

Shipping sources said negotiations on the fate of the Aruba and her cargo so far "have not involved the possibility of selling the cargo to a non-Communist buyer."

FIRST AIM

"The first aim has been to arrange for the petrol to reach the port of destination, despite the crew rebellion," said the sources.

The Aruba originally was bound for Communist China via the jet fuel but the crew rebelled against entering a "war zone" when Nationalist China threatened to "intercept" her.

The Finnish Seamen's Union, wanted to put into the nearest neutral port but the ship's owners ordered her to keep going Eastward until it was decided "what to do with the cargo." The ship at present is reported one day's journey East of Colombo.

NOT POLITICAL

Informed shipping sources said "according to information here the case is likely to be settled by a Communist tanker taking over Aruba's cargo in international waters."

The Seamen's spokesman denied reports that the Union had received congratulations from Formosa "or from any other place."

"The crew's action is taken in the interest of their security. It is entirely in accordance with the Finnish Maritime Law and should not be interpreted as any sort of political demonstration," he said. —United Press.

Words Come True

London, Mar. 20. The Rev. Eric Renshaw, 41, who wrote in the March issue of his parish magazine that "to ride a bicycle in Leicester is to take your life in your hands," was killed in a traffic accident yesterday.

Mr. Renshaw was riding his bicycle to the Leicester City cemetery to conduct a funeral service. —United Press.

LUCKY ESCAPE

Chicago, Mar. 20. An American Airlines DC-7 crumpled a nose wheel and finished tail up today as it made a non-scheduled landing here after one engine went dead. None of the 65 persons aboard was reported injured. The plane was on a non-stop flight from Los Angeles to New York. —United Press.

SUNDAY EXPRESS
Baby
Book
Here is... the book that gives complete information on the care of the baby and small child from the prenatal period through to the sixth year... detailed advice on Routines, Menus, Recipes, Training, First Aid... Complete Record Section from Birth to the twelfth Year. Illustrated by over 200 "how-to" photographs and drawings, some in two colours. 240 pages. Packed in attractive gift box. \$25.00. Obtainable only at South China Morning Post, Wyndham Street, Hong Kong & Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

KING'S * PRINCESS

TO-DAY

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Directed by ROBERT ALTON

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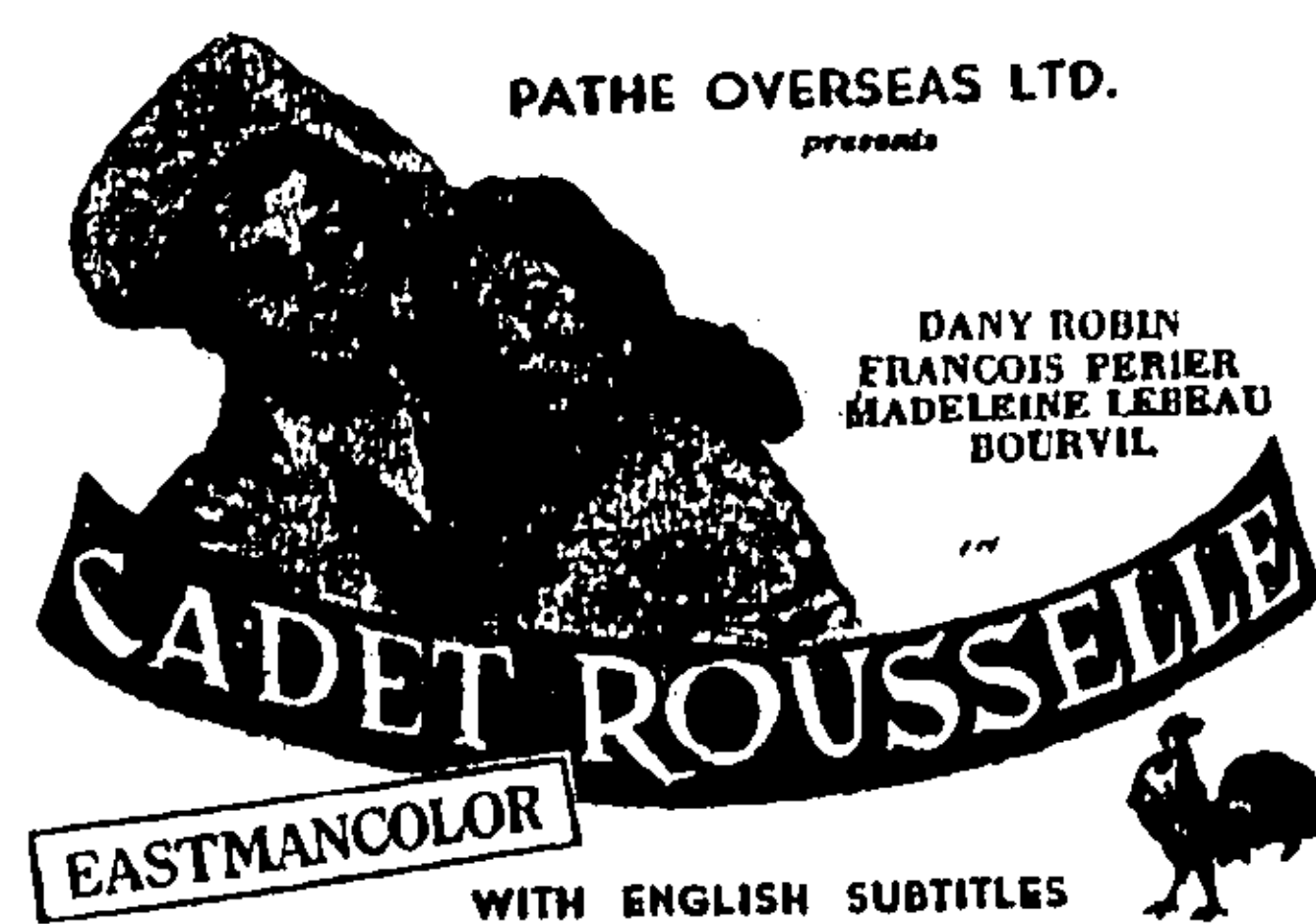
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FINAL TO-DAY



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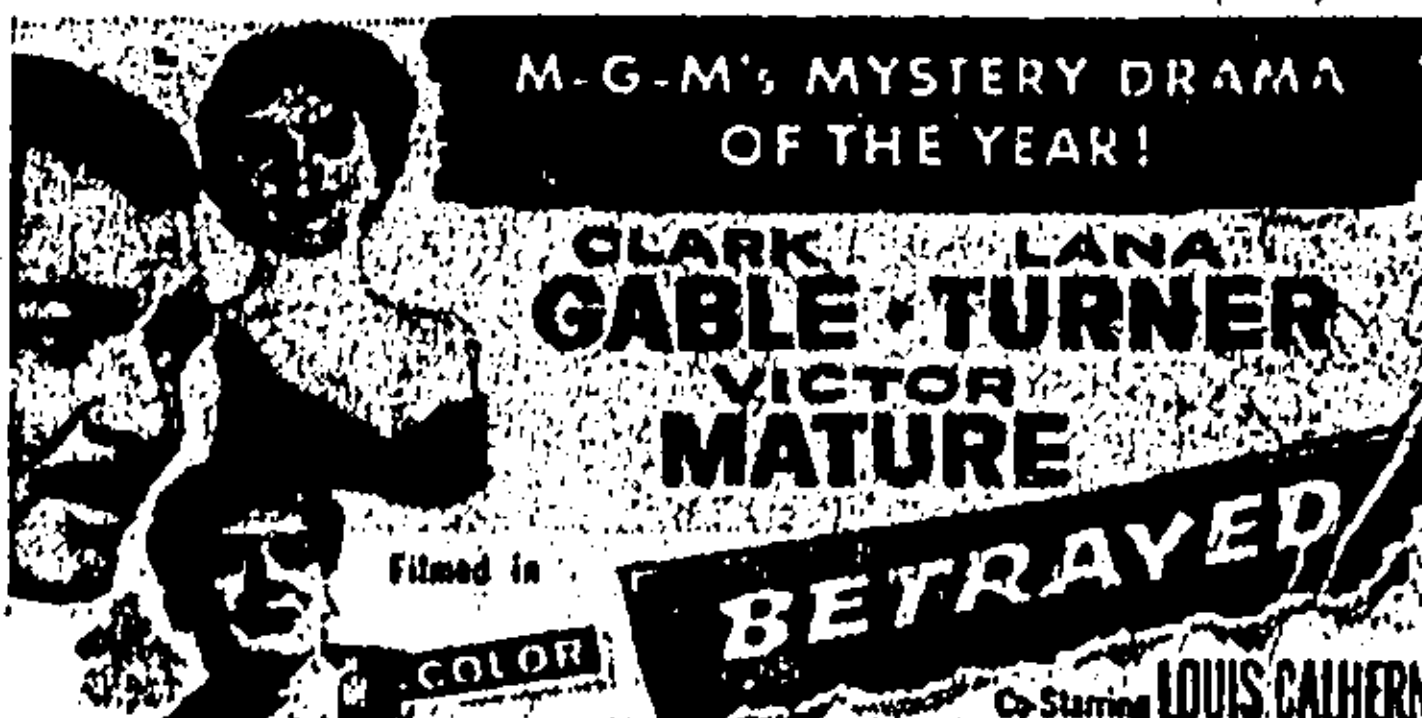
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of them will die!

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OF THE YEAR!



Raab Wants Guarantee From Big Powers

TO COMBAT POSSIBLE OUTSIDE DANGER

Vienna, Mar. 20. The Austrian Chancellor, Dr Julius Raab, asked the United States, Britain, France and Russia tonight to sign a joint guarantee protecting Austria against "any possible" outside danger.

Speaking over the US "Red-White-Red" radio network, Dr Raab said his Government would back all efforts to convene a new four-power conference "dedicated exclusively to settling the Austrian problem."

ADDITION!

Calcutta, Mar. 20. One hour after giving birth to her first baby, a 10-year-old girl turned up here to complete a university examination in mathematics.

The girl had already been sitting for examinations for four days before her son was born.

Labour pains started during a mathematics paper and she was rushed to a maternity hospital. Immediately the child was born, she insisted on returning to the examination hall and completed the paper.

The girl's mother's name is Tripti. It means "fulfilment."—France-Press.

For 10 years the Russians have blocked an Austrian treaty. The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr V. M. Molotov, said three weeks ago that it could not be signed without guarantees that Austria would not join military alliances or link up with Germany in a new "anschluss."

NEEDS CLARIFICATION

Dr Raab said Mr Molotov's demands needed "further clarification." He said Austria had demonstrated good faith through years of negotiations and had pledged repeatedly not to join alliances or permit a new "anschluss."

"Therefore we think the Soviet Union should make clear now such guarantees could be obtained," said Dr Raab. "We think the best solution would be a special four-power guarantee against any possible danger to Austria's independence."

The Chancellor's phrase "any possible danger" obviously included possible Soviet aggression as well as a German "anschluss." The Chancellor said he "would not compare the kind of talks allegedly held at Yalta with the good faith we have shown in dealing with the treaty problem."

"I am convinced that the world recognises the goodwill we have shown so far to help secure peace and promote the aims of the United Nations," he said. He added that Austria's intention to seek a State treaty was made clear in a note to Russia last week.

He said the Federal Government welcomed all possible effective guarantees to protect Austria.

MADE CLEAR

"We repeatedly have made clear that Austria does not intend to join military alliances or to permit the establishment of foreign military bases in Austria," he said.

Dr Raab stressed his Government's readiness to accept a clause to that effect to be inserted in the Austrian State treaty. He recalled that in the "anti-anschluss" clause in the treaty draft forbids Austria any political or economic reunion with Germany.—United Press.

Clergyman In Knitting Final

London, Mar. 20. A bespectacled British clergyman will fly to Paris next Tuesday with his own hand-knitted sweaters which he believes "may startle the fashion world" when he presents them in the final round of the International Knitting Competition in Paris next week.

The Reverend Reginald Parry, 64-year-old Vicar of the Huddersfield Congregational Church, is one of the four Britons selected from 20,000 entrants to take part in the final of the competition.

Parisian couturier Pierre Balmain will be one of the judges who will inspect the Rev. Parry's revolutionary polo-neck sweater, which has only one seam, measuring about four inches.

For the qualifying round, the Vicar produced a knitted sports jacket which any of the ladies of the Paris sewing guild would have been proud to acknowledge as her own.—France-Press.

Back Seat For Wright Brothers

Paris, Mar. 20. A Russian had invented and flown the first heavier than air machine 20 years before the Wright brothers flew theirs for the first time in the United States, Radio Moscow monitored here tonight claimed.

The radio said the inventor's name was Alexander Fedorovich Mozhayski.

The 130th anniversary of his birth will be observed tomorrow throughout the Soviet Union, the broadcast added.—France-Press.

Dr Lin's Budget Not Approved

Singapore, Mar. 20. World-famed Chinese philosopher Dr Lin Yu-tang ran into difficulty in setting up the new Chinese Nanyang University here today when the University Executive Committee failed to approve his budget.

Informal sources said that Dr Lin offered to meet the Committee to explain the points of his budget which needed clarification, but this offer was rejected by the Committee.

Dr Lin today released to the Press copies of the correspondence between him and the Committee on the subject of the University budget.

In releasing the correspondence, Dr Lin said, "It is time the public was told."—France-Press.

ATOM BOMB VICTIMS



Three Japanese women atom bomb victims have arrived in London to give a series of lectures in various parts of Britain on the devastating effects of the first atom bomb. The three women all experienced the explosion at Hiroshima or Nagasaki. They are Mrs Shizuko Ihara, whose husband and son were killed at Hiroshima; Mrs Kikuo Ihara, a teacher who was bombed at Nagasaki; and Dr Sui Yamamoto, who has special knowledge of the effect of the atomic bomb. Picture shows them arriving at London Airport.—Express Photo.

STASSEN MAY HAVE NEW ARMS APPROACH

Washington, Mar. 20.

A new approach to the deadlocked question of disarmament may come out of Mr Harold Stassen's appointment as full-time, cabinet-ranking executive to deal with the problem, diplomatic sources said today.

President Eisenhower created the new post of Special Assistant on Disarmament Problems last night and charged Mr Stassen, head of the Foreign Operations Administration, to go to work immediately.

The President's statement that the London disarmament talks with the Soviet Union had made no progress but lent weight to the belief that Mr Stassen's primary task would be to try to come up with something fresh.

This might make possible a new start in attempts to solve the issue.

Mr Stassen is expected to be briefed on the latest Soviet attitude to disarmament in discussions he said he hoped to have this week with Mr Cabot Lodge, United States chief delegate at the United Nations.

Mr Lodge returned a few days ago from the London conference where he has been replaced by Mr Wadsworth.

There was the belief in some quarters that Mr Stassen's position, unique in American history, might be a spur to the British and French Governments to raise to cabinet level their representation at any future disarmament talks.

REVIEW PROPOSALS
Democratic Senator H. H. Humphreys from Minnesota, of which Mr Stassen was three days Governor today, suggested that "go to" Stassen should "go to" review the disarmament proposals of the late McMahon.

Senator McMahon of Connecticut proposed several times

Assassination Trial Starts Today

Panama, City, Mar. 21. The Panama National Assembly begins today the trial of ex-President Jose Ramon Guizado on a charge of complicity in the assassination of President Jose Riquelme.

Guizado has declared he is innocent and that "there is a conspiracy against me."

The hearings are expected to last four days.

Senator Riquelme was shot dead by machine gunners at a race-course on January 2. Guizado, then Vice-President, succeeded him as President automatically.

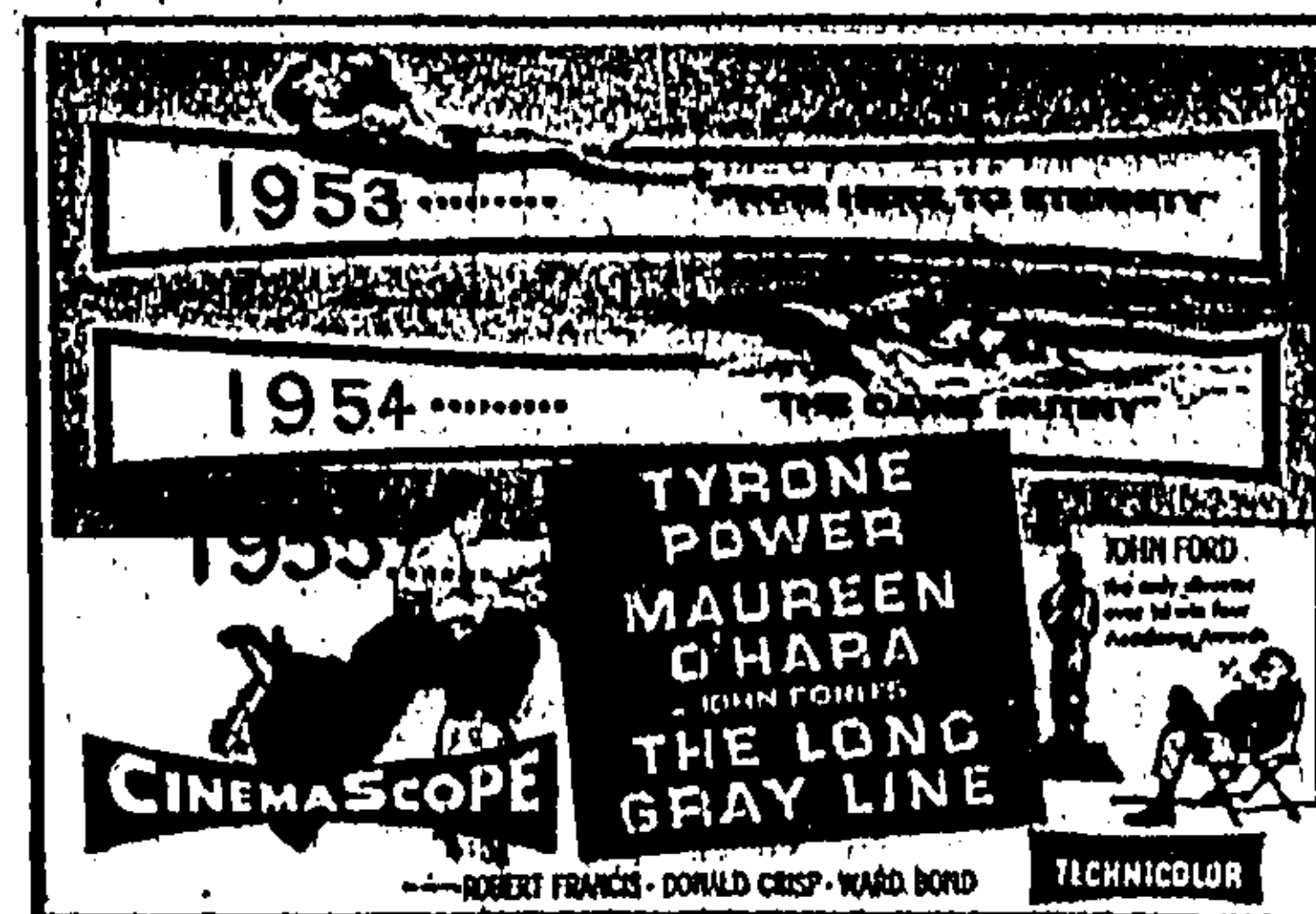
His twelve days later, the Panamanian National Guard, a body devoted to "strong man" Riquelme, surrounded Guizado's home and put him under house arrest. The National Assembly later formally ordered his arrest.

Business life in this Central American Republic will be practically suspended today while the trial goes on, it was said.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SPECIAL TIMES TO-DAY: 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.40 p.m.

SHOWING TO-DAY



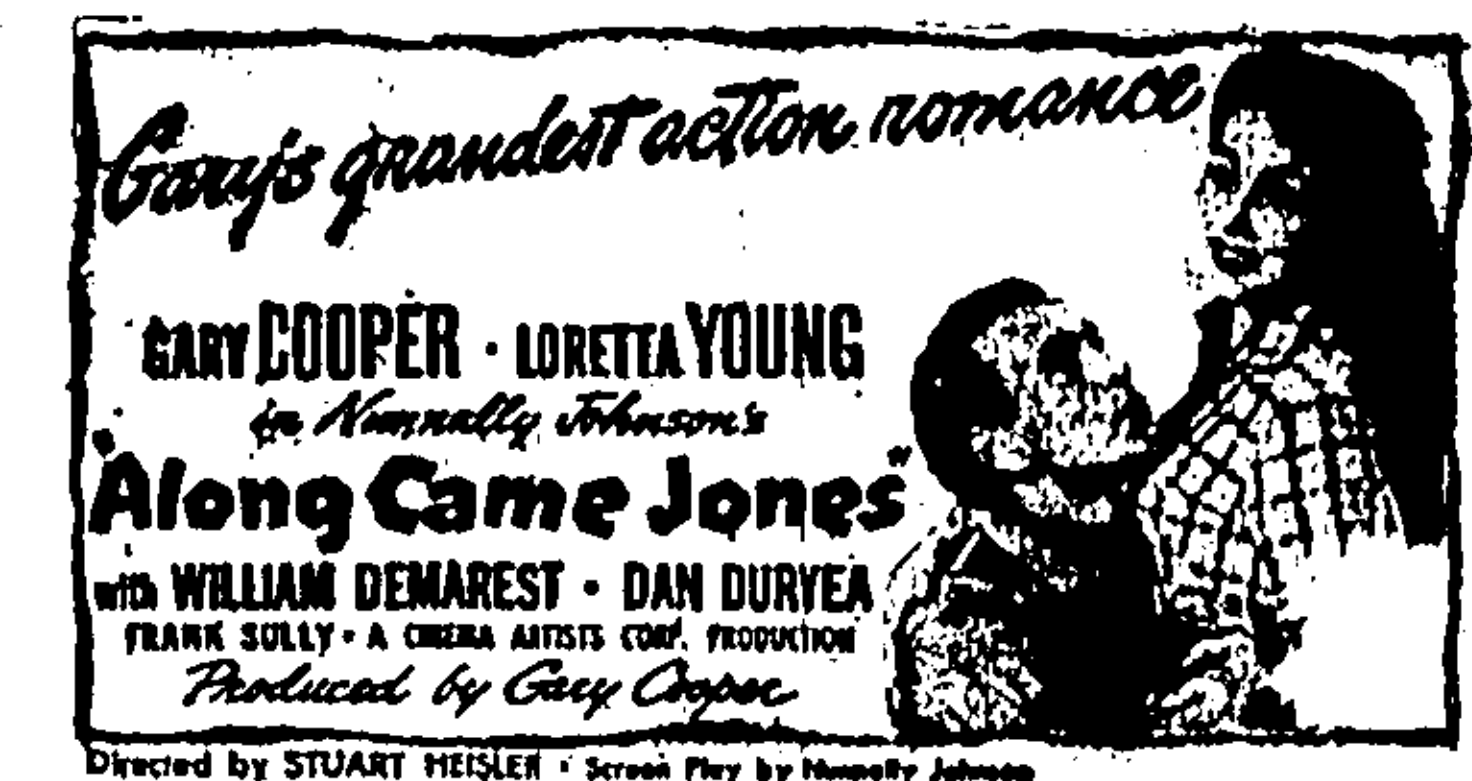
NEXT CHANGE || Columbia's New Thrill Sensation
"THE 49th MAN"

EMPIRE

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY

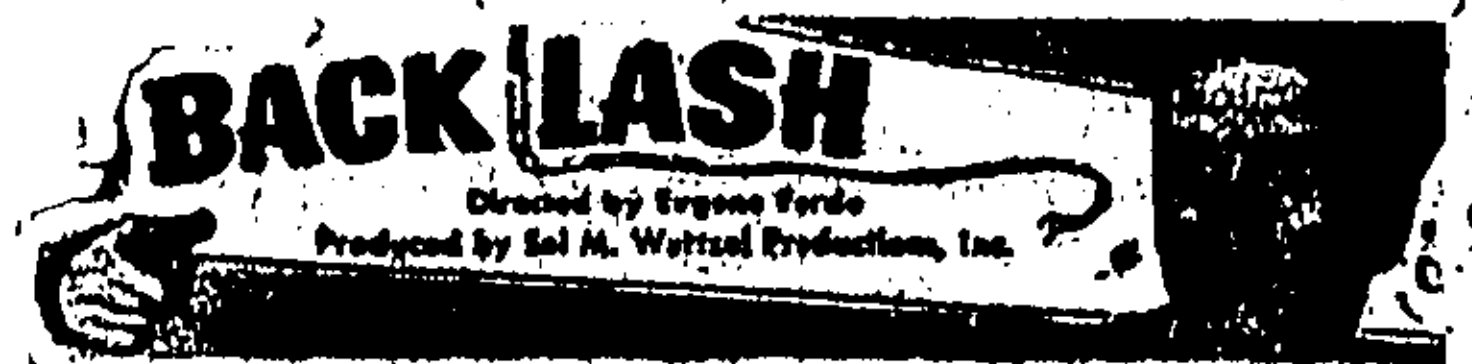
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OPENS TO-MORROW



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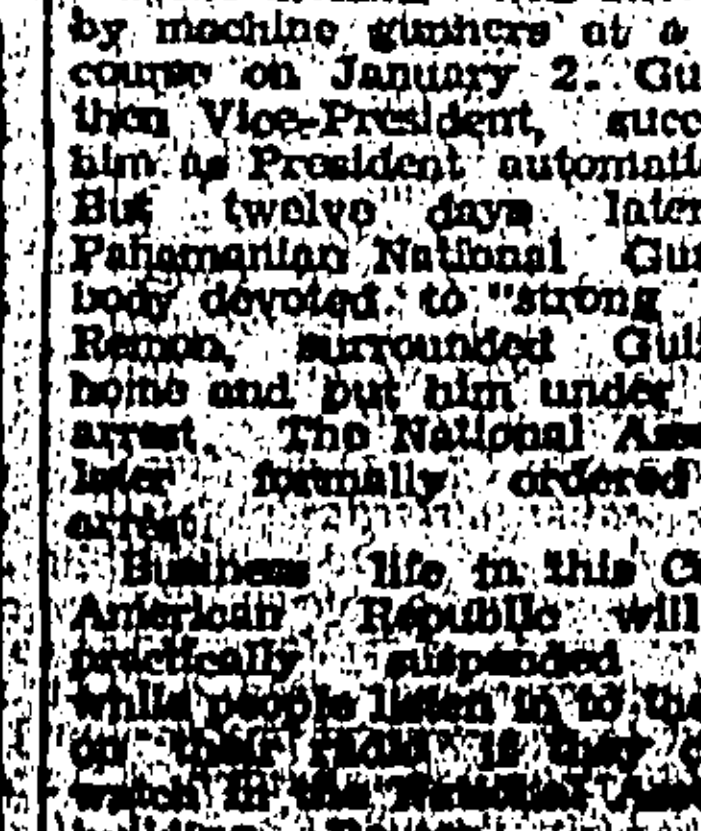
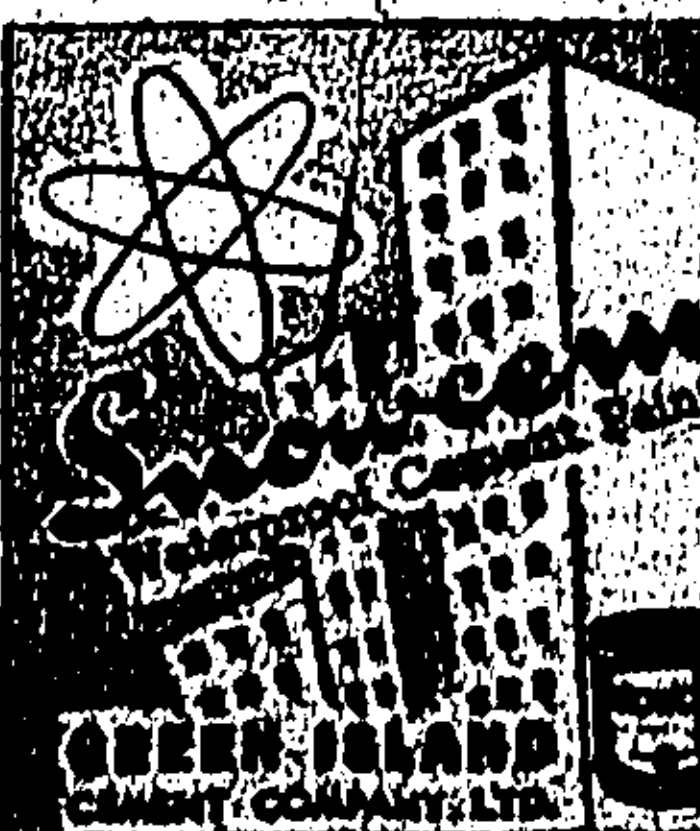
★ FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
ON PANORAMIC SCREEN



COMMENCING TO-MORROW

Gary Cooper · Frank Sinatra · Frank Sinatra
"MEET JOHN DOE"

POP



INDIAN REDS IN MALAY JUNGLE

He Resigned



Sir Richard Acland, Labour M.P. for Grays, who resigned his seat in the House of Commons in protest at Britain's manufacture of the H-bomb. Sir Richard is an Independent. — Central Press Photo.

Hard Core Operating With Terrorists

Singapore, Mar. 20. About 100 hard core Indian Communists are operating with the Malayan Communist Party in the Malayan jungle, it was revealed by Major R. J. Issac, Chief of the Psychological Warfare Department here.

In a broadcast over Radio Malaya on Saturday night, Major Issac disclosed for the first time how Indian Communists and their followers were helping the Malayan Communist Party in the campaign of terror since June 1948.

The psychological warfare chief said top-ranking members of the Indian Communist Party were operating in the Malayan Communist Party's headquarters in Singapore to join their Chinese comrades in the jungle.

MOSCOW INSTRUCTED

Like all other Communist parties throughout the world, Major Issac said, these Indian Communists took their general instructions from Moscow—not in the form of written directives but by following the party line put out daily by Moscow radio.

At the outbreak of World War II when Russia and Germany signed a non-aggression pact, Major Issac said, Indian Communists in Malaya called it a "capitalist war" and stirred up trouble against Indian labor. They also distributed subversive literature among Indian troops.

The psychological warfare chief said when Germany attacked Russia and Moscow appealed for help, the Indian Communists here changed the "capitalist war" to a "people's war" and suspended their subversive activities against the British in Malaya.

During the Japanese occupation of Malaya, Major Issac said, only a few Indian Communists served as guerrillas in the jungle but many Indians risked their lives supporting the guerrillas not as Communist supporters but in a true patriotic anti-Japanese spirit.

AGITATION

At the end of the second World War the Indian Communist elements in Malaya allied themselves closer with the Malayan Communist Party and were integrated into the Indian section of the general labor union. Its job was concentrated on the dock workers and those in the air and naval bases north of Singapore.

In the Federation of Malaya the Indian Communists in-

filtrated into the ranks of estate and mine workers and some in the local fields of Selangor State.

Despite their usefulness to the Malayan Communist Party, Major Issac said the Indians were given no representation on the Central Committee nor were they given any say in the policy of the Party except in the Communist dominated general labor union where Indian Communists were pushed forward into high positions to form a false front.

Major Issac said there was always intense suspicion between the Indians and the Chinese Communists in the Malayan jungle. The Indians were always very outspoken in their own language and their comrades had no idea what was being said.

When General Templer tightened food control regulations around the Chinese new villages, the Malayan Communist Party was forced to turn to their Indian comrades for help.

SPLIT UP

The Indian element which formerly was grouped and worked together was split up and two or three Indians were attached as guides, interpreters and propagandists which rushed to open new food supply lines from rubber estates with Indian labor.

Two years after the emergency started, S. A. Ganapathy described as the toughest and best military trained Communist leader in Malaya, was captured in the jungle of Ulu Selangor. He was tried and sentenced to death and hanged.

Veraswami, the former President of the Singapore Federation of Trade Unions was shot dead in a Communist camp in Negri Sembilan State—United Press.

DOCTOR WANTED

Singapore, Mar. 20. A Japanese doctor in the Malayan jungles is one of the terrorists most wanted by the security forces here.

The Japanese doctor, called Hito or Ah Yan, is running a well-equipped jungle hospital for terrorists in Central Malaya, in the Negri Sembilan-Pahang border area.

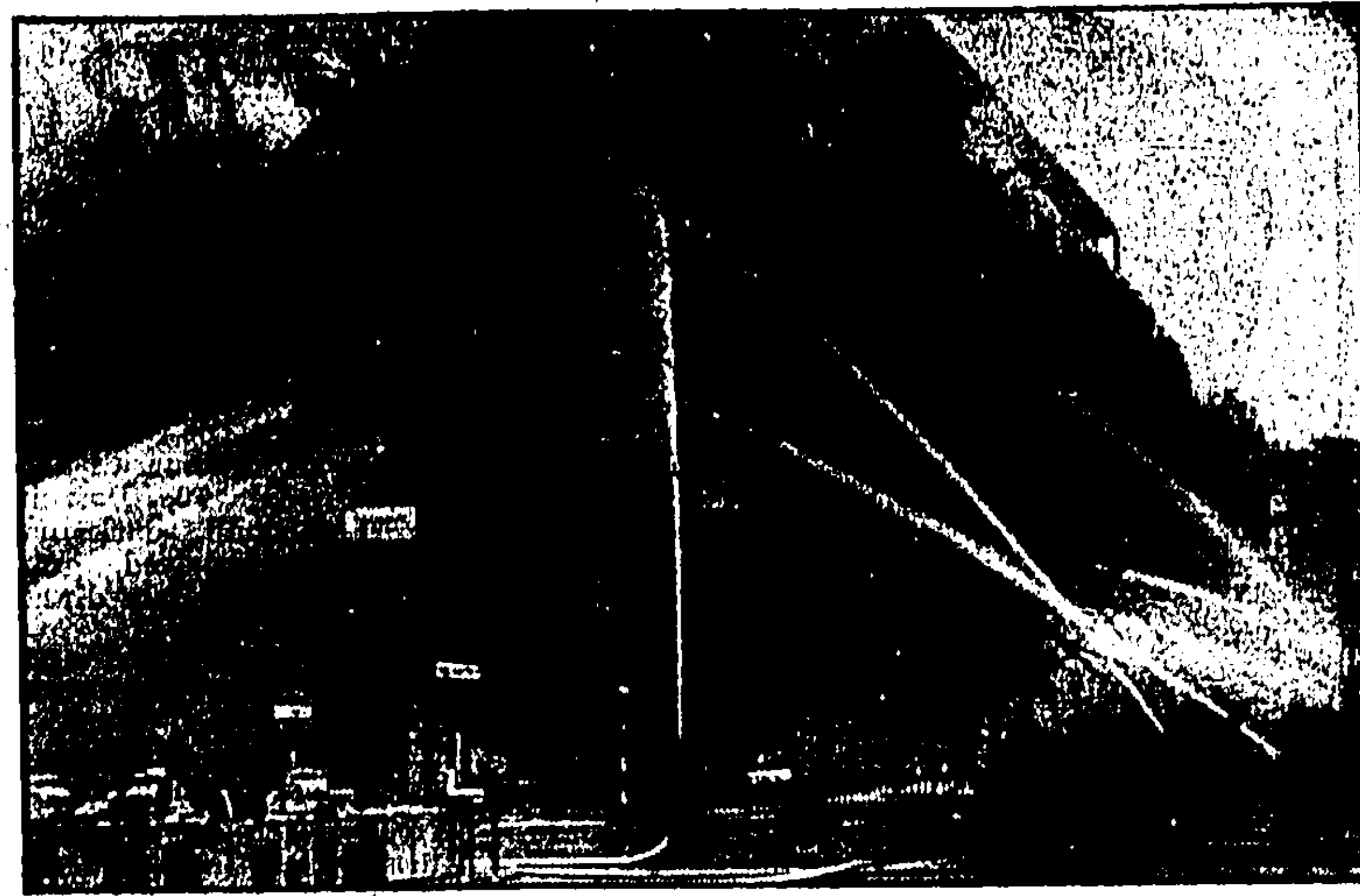
Described as "stout, hairy-faced and English-speaking," the 33-year-old doctor was said to have served in the Japanese engineering corps during the occupation.

When the war ended, he masqueraded for some time as a Hakka thinsmith because of his fluent knowledge of the Hakka tongue. He then joined the Communists in the jungle, and is at present one of the leaders in the Pahang area.

EIGHT KILLED

An operation to clean out this area was launched at the end of last year. So far, eight of the terrorists here have been killed and two others surrendered.

The security forces are now stepping up their drive to get the "kingpin" of the area, Hor Lung—and also his friend and physician, "Doctor Hito"—France-Press.



Metal scaffolding crashes to the ground from a blazing office building in Birmingham, narrowly missing firemen playing hoses on the flames. Damage in the blaze, Birmingham's worst since the war, was about £1,000,000.—Reuterphoto.

Middle East Defence Key In The Negev

Cairo, Mar. 20.

Major Salah Salem, the Egyptian Minister of National Guidance, said today the key to Middle East defence lay in a desert triangle in the Negev, the desert area from which Israel forces drove Egyptians in the Arab-Israel war.

He said Egypt and the Arab states must have an uninterrupted overland route linking all the Arab countries before they could side openly with the West and play their full part in the effective defence of the Middle East.

Major Salem told correspondents that Egypt had no territorial ambitions but was most anxious to have a direct plan link with Jordan and the rest of the Arab world.

At present, Israel lies on Egypt's northern border and Egypt's only link with Jordan and the other Arab nations is across the Gulf of Akaba.

GIVE TO JORDAN

He said the Gaza coastal strip and the desert triangle 80 miles wide and 90 miles long from Gaza to Beersheba with its apex at Akaba must be given to Jordan.

(This would cut off the southern triangle of Israel and give Egypt and Jordan a common border 50 miles long. The Egyptian administered Gaza strip with the scene last month of the worst clash since the war between Israeli and Egyptian troops and 46 men died.)

Major Salem said: "This would solve the complex problem of the Middle East political and military, as well as organizing defence in this area as a solid link in the chain of overall defence from NATO to SEATO."

He said Israel was reported to have consented to an Arab "corridor" across the Negev but this definition was unacceptable to Egypt and the Arab states.

Major Salem then turned to the "crucial question" of the situation arising from it. He said: "Turkey must cease her repeated attacks including ultimatum and threats against the Syrian Government. Otherwise the consequences may be disastrous to Turkey and the West."

He continued: "Egypt is prepared to accept the Turkish-Iraq pact as a pact provided Turkey and Iraq equally recognize the newly-created Egyptian-Syrian-Saudi Arabian pact as another pact. The two pacts could run parallel for the time being."

"They are not incompatible and could eventually be linked through various courses open to us in an overall Middle East settlement."

Major Salem said: "Egypt is prepared to co-operate fully with the West but she must safeguard her legitimate position against all adverse possibilities within and outside the Middle East."

DEPENDS ON WEST

Asked about Egypt's attitude to the Bandung Afro-Asian conference next month, he said: "It all depends on the West and the next few days. We may be forced to reconsider our attitude before going to Bandung."

The Egyptian Premier, Lt.-Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser, is due to represent Egypt at Bandung, Indonesia, with a delegation including the Foreign Minister, Dr. Mohamed Fawzi, and Major Salem.—Reuter.

Britannia Draws Crowd

Johannesburg, Mar. 20.

Fire engines and the police were called out to the Jan Smuts airport here this afternoon to deal with more than 2,000 sightseers who came to watch the giant, new turbo-jet Bristol Britannia undergoing tests.

More than 10,000 people crowded onto the airfield to see the plane which this week broke the speed record from London to Johannesburg. — France-Press.

Language 'Inquisition' In S. Africa

Johannesburg, Mar. 20.

South Africa, some Afrikaans (South African Dutch) speaking parents want their children to attend English schools. But it is a crime in the eyes of the Government.

Intent on keeping apart the two main European races in South Africa, it has laid down that children must be educated in their home language.

So now the annual language "inquisition" is on again in the Transvaal infant schools. Women inspectors visit the schools and inspect lists of names looking out particularly for children with Afrikaans names, who are in English medium schools, and vice versa.

Then she chats in English and Afrikaans with classes of five- or six-year-olds. It usually takes about a couple of hours to make sure that none of them have slipped into the wrong group.

Last year, in Pretoria, for example, 472 children were examined and there were appeals against the inspector's decision on the school the children should go to.—France-Press.

SIND PROHIBITS GATHERINGS

Karachi, Mar. 20.

The Sind Provincial Government tonight prohibited public gatherings in the province for a fortnight and set up police checks on all roads to Hyderabad, where the Provincial Assembly is due to meet shortly.

These measures followed the announcement by the Sind Premier Mohammed Khurro of an alleged plot to assassinate the ministers of the province which was reported earlier today.—France-Press.

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Tax Headache For Faure

BOOK-SELLER'S CAMPAIGN CAUSING CRISIS

Paris, Mar. 20.

The anti-tax campaign of provincial book-seller Pierre Poujado will be French Premier Edgar Faure's main headache when M. Faure tries to obtain special powers from the National Assembly next March 28 to cope with the country's worsening tax crisis.

M. Poujado, whose anti-tax organisation now numbers more than 500,000 shop-keepers throughout France, has decided to call a general 24-hour shop-keepers' strike when the special powers resolution comes up for debate.

The 33-year-old book-keeper, who was angered when deputies refused to vote for his proposals in a stormy National Assembly session last night, has also decided to take political action on several other fronts.

He has warned the Deputies if they do not back his anti-tax collection measures, he will campaign against them at the local elections which are slated for next month.

M. Poujado also decided after last Saturday's setback to unite his peasant sympathisers into political action group similar to his shop-keepers association.

So far, M. Poujado has managed to woo only one of the main professional farm organisations to his cause, and it has agreed to co-operate with him but not to integrate with his movement.

But, M. Poujado has some moderate, Communist and Radical Deputies on his side and it will require great, clever work on the part of M. Faure if he is to survive the tax battle which M. Poujado is preparing for next March 28.—France-Press.

CHINESE PIANIST WINS PRIZE

Paris, Mar. 20.

Chinese pianist Fu Tsung won third prize in the fifth International Chopin piano contest at Warsaw, the New China News Agency reported today in a dispatch from the Polish capital.

He also won the prize for the best performance of Mazurkas.—France-Press.

DUKE SPEAKS TO THE FLEET

Valetta, Mar. 20.

The Duke of Edinburgh called tonight for a "much higher degree of understanding and co-operation" if the armed services were to fulfil their proper function.

In a talk recorded aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia and broadcast to the Mediterranean Fleet tonight, he said: "To make NATO really effective, the national contribution must be properly national, not just to much from each service."

The Duke's talk included comments on exercise "Sea Lance" recently completed by the Home and Mediterranean Fleets in which the Duke took part aboard the royal yacht.

WHOLE WORLD

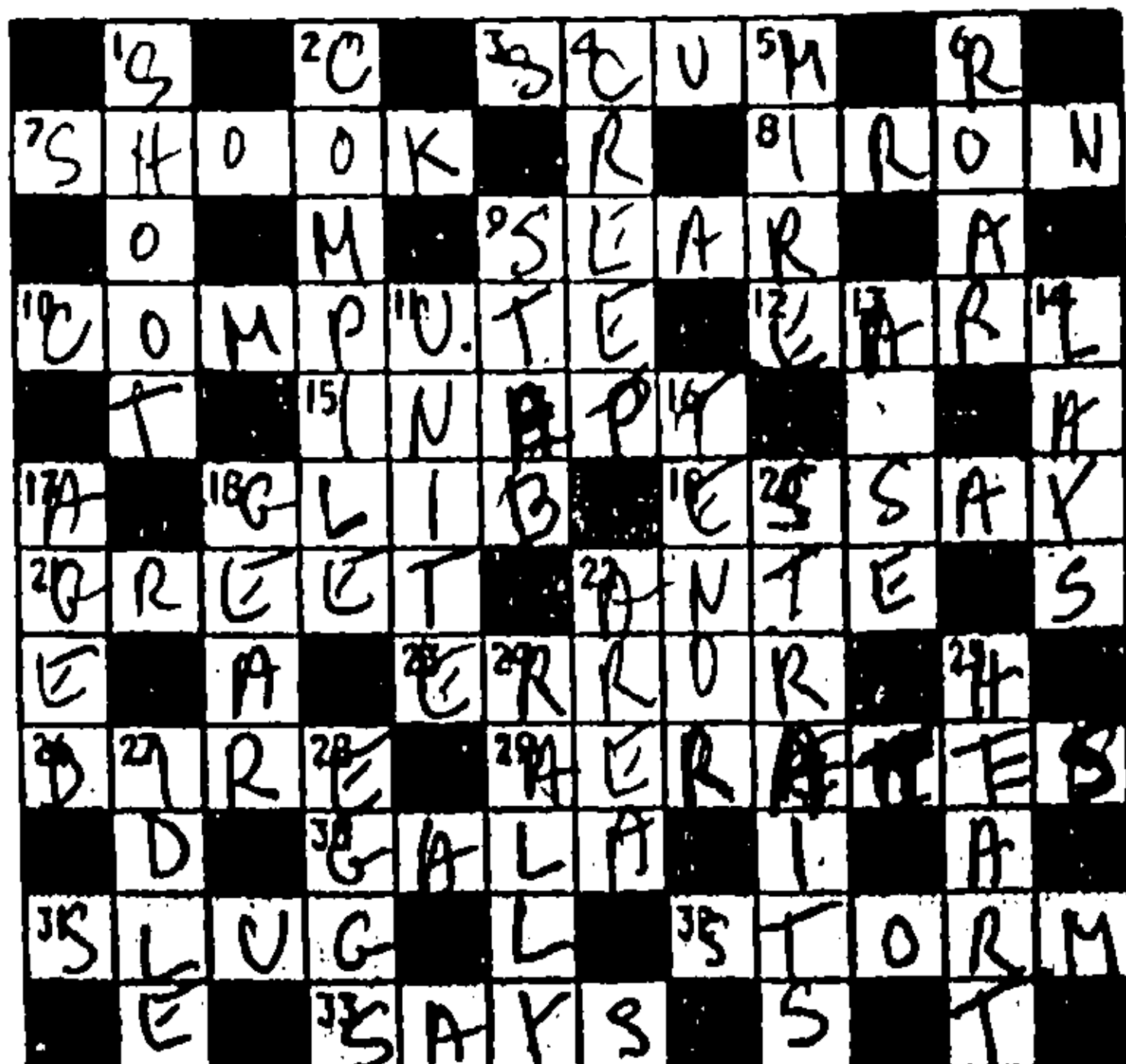
He said the world was going through a period roughly comparable to the time when gun powder was first used in warfare. Commenting on the introduction of nuclear weapons, he said: "If there is another war, the whole world will be the battlefield."

Tomorrow, the Duke of Edinburgh attends a post exercise conference. He plays polo in the Keys cup series in the afternoon and in the evening attends a "men only" Mediterranean Fleet concert.—Reuter.

Tokyo, Mar. 20. The local police today detained a 25-year-old man in Yokohama on suspicion of allegedly swimming 11 unmarried women of nearly three million yen (£3,000).

The police said he had deceived the women by telling them he wanted to marry them.—China Mail Special.

A British Crossword Puzzle



No Stirrups On A Camel

By CHARLES ANDERSON

Damascus. I am uncomfortably discovering in three parts desert, the principal form of transport is (not unnaturally) the camel. Zoologically speaking, the animal is a dromedary (one hump), but to all and sundry in Arabia it is a "camel" or (in Arabic) a "jamel".

Within hours of arriving in the Biblical city I discovered that if one wishes to travel any distance at all in any direction one bumps into a sizable chunk of desert and that the safest way of crossing any desert, irrespective of size, is by camel.

Palmyra, the ancient Roman settlement I wished to visit, lay 150 miles from Damascus. It lay, for some reason best known to the Romans, across absolute desert, with only water holes every 50 or 60 miles. It would, I was told, take me at least two camel days to get there. With this in mind and knowing little of camels, I decided it would be best for both myself and the camel if I took some driving lessons.

Ali Baba

My British driving licence includes "all forms of transport" but this carried no weight with the toothless old Arab (aged about 80) who was allotted me by the chief of the local Camel Corps. I would, he thought, have to start at the beginning.

Accompanied by Ali Baba (and that was his real name) we walked down the long line of chained camels until we came to what appeared a shaggy mountain of old rags. This, Ali told me, was my "car" for the journey.

"Plenty good jamal," said Ali, "in all thirty years, and the best master." At this the "jamel" raised his head from the feeding trough, turned his neck slowly and regarded me with withering contempt. His rheumy eyes blinked, and saliva dropped from the heavy folds of his mouth as he munched a giant mass of sodden grass.

Ali took hold of the chain which was attached to the long shaggy neck, and led my steed out on to the desert road. At the same time he gave a wicked smile, before turning to his change and muttering away in Arabic. At this, my mind recalled all the stories I had heard about the infamy of camels who take a dislike to their rider. One kick from the spindly hind leg of a camel can

rocket a man two hundred yards. And now the beast was ready and waiting.

I approached the shaggy mountain with the temerity of one unexpectedly called upon to demolish a mine.

Unfortunately, camels, with that inherent sense of suspicion found in most animals, can be seen reading your thoughts as you approach. "Sultan" was no exception. As I neared he leered at me with his rheumy old eyes, and slowly raised his left hind leg. I bent a hasty retreat. At this my ancient instructor advised me to walk down the road and come straight back to the "jamel", shaggy, humped monstrosity, towering ten feet high, with an air of benevolence.

Most Agonising

As I returned from my little promenade I noticed a dozen little Arab boys crouching in the roadside ditch, all chuckling with laughter. Doubtless, "this was going to be as good as a camel".

When I was about ten yards from Sultan, Ali shouted some words of encouragement, and the wall of faintly stretched brown hide slowly subsided to reasonable proportions.

(One doesn't use stirrups on a camel. Instead, the beast is supposed to get down on its knees and wait for you to mount. Unfortunately, from the beginning's point of view, the wary beast never stays down long enough, and stops praying just as you have one leg round its neck, and both hands grabbing tightly at the small tufted ears.

The next few seconds in my life were the most agonising I have experienced. To the accompaniment of roaring laughter from the Arab boys, screams from Ali and deep-throated grunts from Sultan, I commenced to slide down the side of the latter as he began to rise up from his knees.

Landing with a resounding thud on my back, I looked up at "Sultan". He was gently swinging his left (hind) leg to and fro.

Alternative

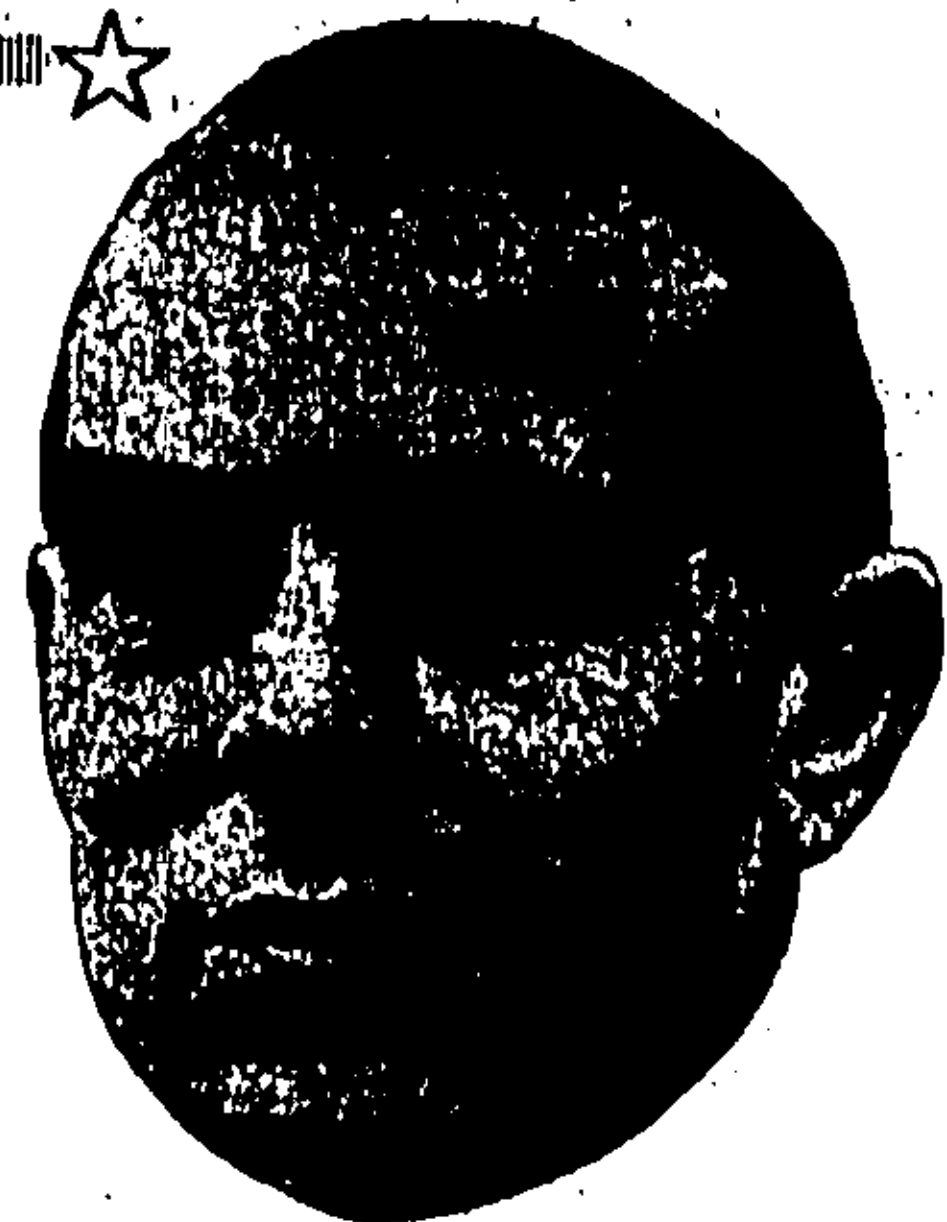
On returning to my hotel, I discovered alternative transport after all. A Syrian Airways plane was leaving for Palmyra in two days' time.

A cowardly substitution—and I only hope for the sake of future occasions when there isn't a plane, that camels as distinct from elephants, forget. Having met a "jamel" at close quarters I doubt it.

TWO MEN KNOW CHURCHILL'S SECRETS



DAVID PITBLADO, 44, is a brilliant administrator in a government department. He is probably the only man in the world who knows Churchill's secrets.



JOHN RUPERT COLVILLE — every day he helps to shape your life.

YOU may see him tonight or tomorrow as he hurries away from 10, Downing Street, a small, dark man, neat and sharp-eyed, going home to a very late dinner.

by George Hutchinson

I shall be surprised if you know his face. There are not many who do, even in Whitehall. And his name is hardly more familiar.

Yet John Rupert Colville is one of the most influential people in the country. Every day, working in unreported ways, he is helping to shape my life and yours.

Colville is Joint Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, with a partner called David Pittblado.

From them Sir Winston has no secrets. To both, the Government's gravest business is an open book. It must be so, or they would be of little use to Churchill.

But more than that, Colville and Pittblado, by their advice to the Prime Minister, by their knowledge, by their grasp of events, exert a force of their own in the making of public policy.

And so I feel that we should know them better. These prodigious young officials. Let us look at them together.

Colville is 40, an aristocrat who has built his career on the foundations of Harrow, Cambridge and Buckingham Palace.

Page of Honour

It began when he was 12, with his appointment as Page of Honour to the Queen's grandfather, George V. His mother, Lady Cynthia, was already a Woman of the Bedchamber to Queen Mary, and in one capacity or another Colvilles have been attached to the Royal Family ever since.

John Colville went into the Foreign Service when he left Cambridge. But in no time he was off to 10 Downing Street as Prime Minister Chamberlain's assistant private secretary. And from that day this has been his home—assured, almost anonymous—in the privileged world of high politics, great affairs.

He stayed on in Downing Street to work for Churchill during the war, and then Mr. Attlee. But after a few months with Mr. Attlee he went back

to the Foreign Office, until the Queen—still Princess Elizabeth—sent for him, and Colville, recruited once again into the Royal service, set up as her private secretary.

Half-way through his term with the Princess he married her lady-in-waiting, Lady Margaret Egerton, a pleasant, unassuming girl who is seldom in the limelight nowadays. They have one child.

From the Princess's office, Colville was posted to our Embassy at Lisbon. But this third diplomatic spell was no more enduring than the first or second. Churchill called—and Colville returned to No. 10.

What are his gifts, that Prime Ministers set such value on his services?

Intelligence, quickness of mind—these we can take for granted in Colville's job. Add method,

good memory and stamina: together they keep him going efficiently for perhaps 12 hours at a stretch not just now and again but nearly every day.

Then, as one of his friends has put it, "He knows about almost anything, and holds opinions on all subjects."

Opinions, moreover, that he never tires of expressing, for in his own circle Colville is a great talker. A witty one, too, although he is inclined to be dogmatic and shows a touch of arrogance.

You will find him and David Pittblado on the ground floor of No. 10, a few steps from the long, white Cabinet room. They have a suite of offices at the back of the house, looking over the garden.

There, with a band of assistants, they shovel away incessantly at the avalanche of paper that every Premier brings down—the letters, the minutes, the memoranda, all multiplied

beyond measurement because Churchill, the most copious writer among modern statesmen, is also the most voluble.

A former Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet, Dr. Thomas Jones, has described the role of men like Colville and Pittblado.

"The Private Secretaries arrange their master's daily timetable form a barricade against unwanted bores, invent amusements for his recreation, assemble material for his speeches, guard his reputation, humour his foibles, tell stories, and talk nonsense as required."

"They have no settled hours or holidays and they neglect their families. The relations of the Prime Minister with his secretaries are hardly less important than his relations with his Ministers. When chosen they are already marked out for high promotion."

Pittblado's brilliance in administration is probably without parallel among Civil Servants of his generation. Yet he is self-effacing to a fault.

He and his wife—she is Welsh, and used to be a schoolmistress in Cheltenham—live modestly in Chelsea. They married 13 years ago, and have two children.

Pittblado has come up the hard way, as the saying goes: from grammar school to Cambridge, then a desk in the old Dominions Office.

Soon he was working as assistant private secretary to the Minister, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald. That sort of appointment is always a sign of exceptional capacity—only the best men, "the real fliers," as the Civil Service calls them, are let loose in the Minister's office.

"The Principal Private Secretary should be the antithesis of a robot. He is the one person whom the Prime Minister is glad to see enter his room; he will only enter at the right moment and on the right business."

"The Prime Minister has no secrets from his Private Secretary any more than from his wife. To him, as to her, he is not ashamed to confess ignorance, error, fear, or resentment; to censure rivals and opponents; to admit disillusion with ungrateful supporters."

For this, Pittblado receives £2,500 a year. Colville's salary is much the same.

Good humour

He is 42, a calm, quizzical, good-humoured fellow with a great dome of a forehead, less hair than he would like, and a gentle voice. It he looks a little tired at times, no one need wonder at that. Downing Street—Chequers—Chartwell, hurried breakfasts, belated dinners... the round goes unbroken.

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Influence...

In 1942 Pittblado was assigned to the War Cabinet, then he went to the Treasury. And to the Treasury he still belongs. One day, I predict, he will rise to be its head—the topmost civil servant of them all.

But... to go back to Tom Jones. "The Private Secretary does not seek public power; he nurses instead a passion for anonymity and secret influence."

Secret influence.... To some, it is a more alluring thing than fame or money.

Why Some People Don't Feel Cold

BY CHAPMAN PINCHER

SOME people cannot get warm. Others walk about in light clothing without feeling the cold.

Plump people have an insulating layer of fat under the skin but many people who do not feel the cold look lean. Why?

The answer to this riddle has been accidentally discovered by Medical Research Council scientists. Even lean people who can stand the cold have a thickish layer of fat under the skin.

BATH TEST

DR GRIFFITH PUGH, the medical scientist, who took part in the conquest of Everest, found this out while studying why Channel swimmers can stay in cold water for 20 hours or more while most people cannot survive five hours in it.

He found that Channel swimmers can lie reading in a

cold bath for hours without showing any drop in body temperature. When Dr. Pugh, who is thin-skinned, got into the bath he became paralysed with cold in 40 minutes.

Tests of men and women immediately after they had swum the Channel last year showed that their body temperatures had barely fallen one degree. This was true whether they had covered their bodies with grease or not.

Dr. Pugh is satisfied that he could tell whether you can stand the cold just by pinching the skin over your ribs to gauge the thickness of the fat.

If it is more than half an inch thick you are well insulated.

Most women fall into this thick-skinned category. Even their legs have a substantially thicker layer of protective fat than a man's—which is why they can weather biting cold in sheer stockings.

MY TEST

WHAT about the occasional fat people who complain of feeling the cold? Dr. Pugh believes that most of them are neurotic. All sensitivity tends to be exaggerated in neurotic people.

After telling me all this Dr. Pugh gave me a firm pinch and pronounced that I could stand up to cold in spite of my leanness.

FOR Britain and the United States to join the Iraqi-Turkish pact will be, perhaps, 1956's greatest constructive diplomatic move.

It will fill the vacuum of power created by Britain's promised evacuation of Suez. But, more important, a fresh spirit of unity against the Communist danger will surge through the Middle East.

The first step will be Eden's visit to Ankara.

After Britain comes Iran. It is expected in London that she will join the pact within about six months. Towards the end of the year the United States will probably come in.

The pact is open to all Middle East States. Late comers may be Lebanon, Jordan and Israel. The Egyptian bloc, including Saudi Arabia and Syria, may not join at all.

Lebanon is the least reluctant. She has refused to link with the anti-West Egyptian bloc. So the quiet but energetic Turkish Foreign Ministry has decided that Lebanon is the next state to be wooed. A series of Lebanese-Turkish talks are scheduled for April.

Jordan is hesitant. She is close to Egypt and also fears Israel. Gifts of Egyptian aircraft add to Egypt's propaganda against Turkey. But Jordan, created by Britain after the

First World War, is financially dependent on London.

Her relations with Britain are good. A revised loan agreement has recently been signed in Whitehall. British policy is to pay full regard to Jordan's independent views and refrain from pressure. It is realised that Jordan will take advice from Britain but not directions. But it seems unlikely that Jordan will remain outside the pact when her greatest ally—Britain—has joined.

Lees Certain

Israel's future attitude is less certain. Growing British sympathy for her isolation has been temporarily checked by the recent Gaza shooting.

Israeli relations with the United States are also strained. American Jewish organisations recently denounced forthcoming American aid to Arab countries as a "betrayal of Israel." This probably reflects official Israeli feeling.

To reassure Israel, there have been Washington hints that the United States may reaffirm its stronger terms the 1950 declaration guaranteeing Middle East freedom. The State Department has already stated through spokesmen its desire to include Israel in a Middle East pact.

Much of the credit for improved Arab-West relations

By JAMES WICKENDEN

must go to Pakistan. The comings and goings of the emissaries in the Middle East since the war has broadened Arab defence ideas.

Yet Pakistan has the biggest problem to solve in Middle East defence—her relations with Afghanistan, whose frontiers about on to Iran, Russia and Pakistan.

The map shows that the weak spot of Middle East defence is the tongue of Afghan territory running between Russia and Pakistan-held North Kashmir to Chinese Sinkiang.

That buffer strip was originally created under far-seeing British statesmanship in 1895 to keep Russia from India. Its value depends on good relations between Karachi and Kabul.

The key to good relations is agreement on the status of the 20,000 square miles of tribal lands between Pakistan and Afghanistan. They are the homelands of the Pathans and form the old "Northwest Frontier" of British India.

The Pathans are racially related to Afghans. According to

Kabul, they should have an independent state—"Pakthistan."

There is no sign that the Pathans are dissatisfied with their higher living standards brought through Pakistani reforms. But Moscow backs Afghan claims. It encourages the Pathanistan campaign by giving loans and technical assistance to the Kabul government.

The Soviet policy of "autonomous regions" has two aims. It softens the way into Pakistan. It forms a future excuse for Russia to create "autonomous regions" out of north Afghanistan itself.

Three Stages

This would be in line with familiar Communist technique—the advance into new territory by the "frontier creep." The "creep" goes in three stages:

1. Window dressing the fringe of Communist territory to attract adjacent peasants.

2. A campaign for the "independence" of racially related peoples across the "propaganda frontier."

3. The sparking of a guerrilla-propaganda movement, if necessary.

It was this method which the Reds used to gain territory from Finland in 1948. The Commun-

ist Chinese have advanced by this way since Mao Tse-tung's year in the Yenan base. They practice it now from Tibet to North Korea.

"Significantly, the Russians have already dressed up the 'autonomous regions' next to Afghanistan, in the Turkmen, Tajik and Uzbek Republics, whose races spread conveniently into Afghanistan."

They have also begun building roads southwards towards the Afghan frontier. Along the routes large supply bases are going up to ease troops movements. And just north of the window display states is the Kazakhstan region. This is where Khrushchev plans to build his "third" Communist arsenal state out of virgin lands.

Fortunately, Afghanistan shows signs of realising its danger and the need to align with Pakistan and the West.

Kabul has welcomed the Pakistan pact with Turkey. Recently the Afghan Foreign Minister, Sardar Naim Khan, stopped at Karachi for secret talks.

But the problem of Pakthistan has still to be solved. If it remains, Afghanistan will become the chief danger point for the Middle East.

That tongue of land—where Russian, Chinese, Pakistani and Indian interests converge, on the weak hinge between the Middle East and Free Asia.

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MIDDLE EAST DEFENCE HINGES ON A TINY STRIP OF LAND

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must go to Pakistan. The comings and goings of the emissaries in the Middle East since the war has broadened Arab defence ideas.

Yet Pakistan has the biggest problem to solve in Middle East defence—her relations with Afghanistan, whose frontiers about on to Iran, Russia and Pakistan.

The map shows that the weak spot of Middle East defence is the tongue of Afghan territory running between Russia and Pakistan-held North Kashmir to Chinese Sinkiang.

That buffer strip was originally created under far-seeing British statesmanship in 1895 to keep Russia from India. Its value depends on good relations between Karachi and Kabul.

The key to good relations is agreement on the status of the 20,000 square miles of tribal lands between Pakistan and Afghanistan. They are the homelands of the Pathans and form the old "Northwest Frontier" of British India.

The Pathans are racially related to Afghans. According to

Kabul, they should have an independent state—"Pakthistan."

There is no sign that the Pathans are dissatisfied with their higher living standards brought through Pakistani reforms. But Moscow backs Afghan claims. It encourages the Pathanistan campaign by giving loans and technical assistance to the Kabul government.

The Soviet policy of "autonomous regions" has two aims. It softens the way into Pakistan. It forms a future excuse for Russia to create "autonomous regions" out of north Afghanistan itself.

Three Stages

This would be in line with familiar Communist technique—the advance into new territory by the "frontier creep." The "creep" goes in three stages:

1. Window dressing the fringe of Communist territory to attract adjacent peasants.

2. A campaign for the "independence" of racially related peoples across the "propaganda frontier."

3. The sparking of a guerrilla-propaganda movement, if necessary.

It was this method which the Reds used to gain territory from Finland in 1948. The Commun-

ist Chinese have advanced by this way since Mao Tse-tung's year in the Yenan base. They practice it now from Tibet to North Korea.

"Significantly, the Russians have already dressed up the 'autonomous regions' next to Afghanistan, in the Turkmen, Tajik and Uzbek Republics, whose races spread conveniently into Afghanistan."

They have also begun building roads southwards towards the Afghan frontier. Along the routes large supply bases are going up to ease troops movements. And just north of the window display states is the Kazakhstan region. This is where Khrushchev plans to build his "third" Communist arsenal state out of virgin lands.

Fortunately, Afghanistan shows signs of realising its danger and the need to align with Pakistan and the West.

Kabul has welcomed the Pakistan pact with Turkey. Recently the Afghan Foreign Minister, Sardar Naim Khan, stopped at Karachi for secret talks.

But the problem of Pakthistan has still to be solved. If it remains, Afghanistan will become the chief danger point for the Middle East.

That tongue of land—where Russian, Chinese, Pakistani and Indian interests converge, on the weak hinge between the Middle East and Free Asia.

CAAF ... 7, HKFA ... 3

CHINESE EXPLOIT GLARING HKFA WING-HALF WEAKNESS TO NOTCH SEVEN GOALS

By I. M. MacTAVISH

Before a capacity crowd at the Club Stadium yesterday this CAAF team of all-stars decisively evened the account as far as the Governor's Cup Series is concerned. A deciding match will now have to be played later in the season. There was little doubt that the Chinese boys were the better side but they did not quite manage to obliterate the memory of the 11-1 hiding suffered by their colleagues in the first game of the competition.

Nothing can detract from the fact that the better team won but those who follow local football closely could not help but feel that the HKFA players contributed in great measure to their own downfall.

Once again we watched a European side playing right into the hands of their Chinese opponents by employing playing tactics that simply asked for trouble and I think most folks are now firmly convinced that to have Higgins and Toth in the same half-back line is an expensive luxury that no team can afford if they are to have a reasonable chance of counter-

ing the wiles of the five-in-a-line attack, which the Chinese boys employ in these games.

VIVIDLY EXPOSED

We saw this vividly exposed in the recent Combined Services-Combined Chinese match. On that occasion Ho Cheung-yau and Yiu Cheuk-yin tore the Services defence to ribbons simply because Higgins and Toth gave the two South China inside forwards far too much room.

One would have thought they had learned their lesson from that experience but yesterday they repeated the practice and their team paid the inevitable penalty.

Four of the seven CAAF goals were directly attributable to the HKFA's glaring weakness in the wing-half position, goals that were scored by Ho Cheung-yau and Yiu Cheuk-yin when they found themselves in the wide open spaces of their opponents' defence.

From a spectator's point of view this was an entertaining enough game. There was plenty of interesting play and a fair ration of goalmouth thrills and incidents. CAAF got onto the winning way after 12 minutes when Ko Po-keung snatched a penalty kick into the net.

With snap goals in the 25th and 33rd minutes Ho Cheung-yau pushed the score up to three and Lee Yuk-tak made it four a few minutes before the interval.

STRANGE BLUNDER

Play was very even after the interval and it was quite in accordance with the run of the game when McLellan nodded one into the CAAF net. This gave the FA side the encouragement they needed and they were giving as good as they got and looked like getting more goals when a strange blunder by goal-keeper Lewis finished the game as far as the actual result was concerned.

Lewis threw himself across his goal and made a brilliant save. He advanced as though to kick the ball clear but suddenly stopped, walked back towards his goal, and laid the ball on the ground. Confusion reigned and then it was seen that referee Woo had awarded an indirect free-kick against the goalkeeper for carrying.

After the game, Lewis said that as he went to kick the ball he heard a whistle and thought that the referee had blown for off-sides or something, but whatever the reason there was certainly none in Mok Chun-wah's as he slammed Yiu Cheuk-yin's short pass into the net.

A couple of minutes later the extent of this blunder was appreciated when HKFA scored their second goal after the best movement of the game.

Toth started it and the ball travelled from him to Morris... to Osborne... to Moss... to Osborne... a header to McLellan and the alarm was sounded with a crashing shot into the roof of the net.

With 25 minutes of the second half gone Yiu Cheuk-yin and Ho Cheung-yau meandered unhindered upfield.

They had time galore and space aplenty to fashion their move and it finished with Ho taking a pass from his team mate and pushing the ball into the net to make the tally 6-2. It all looked ridiculously easy and it was.

A minute later Osborne got another one for HKFA after Moss and voted Ko Po-keung into an error and had driven the ball against both posts. It ran out to the six yards line and Osborne following it up, a simple task to square the ball.

CHINESE DEFENCE

At this stage the Chinese defence was no more certain than its counterpart at the other end and only Wai Fat-kim, in his most acrobatic form, kept the FA forwards out. One save from a brilliant header by Moore was goalkeeping at its very greatest.

With almost the last kick of the game Ho Cheung-yin caught the HKFA defence napping and his shot from outside the 18 yards line slipped in at the post to finish the scoring.

The strength of the CAAF side was at inside forwards and wing-halfs, where Tong Sheng in particular, could do more with one thoughtful flick than either of the FA wing-halves could do with miles of running.

Mok Chun-wah was an enterprising as ever without really hitting his top form but Lee Yuk-tak was well looked after by Honnibal.

Individually the CAAF defenders did well but there were times when collectively they were very uncomfortable and three goals and several near misses against them tell their own story.

Lewis had some fine saves in the HKFA goal but he was not blameless with several of the goals it would be unfair to criticise full-backs Nash and Hahn. They played tremendously hard, but they were given so little help and support from Higgins and Toth, that their task was rendered much more arduous than they had a right to expect.

Honnibal played gallantly in the middle but up front Morris—what a grand wholehearted game he played—and McLellan were the ones who mattered most. Moss suffered through the ineptness of Osborne who had a very poor game, while on the other wing Wainman was content to wait for the stray ball and push it over. He submitted very easily to Hui Yung-sang.

The MacTavish Star Ratings

CAAF

Wai Fat-kim
Hui Yung-sang
Lau Yee
Chan Fai-hung
Ko Po-keung
Tong Sheng
Ho Cheung-yau
Lee Yuk-tak
Yiu Cheuk-yin
Mok Chun-wah

HKFA

Lewis
Nash
Hahn
Higgins
Honnibal
Toth
Osborne
Moss
Morris
McLellan
Wainman

KITCHEE 1, KMB 0

A goal by Chu Wing-keung 10 minutes after the interval was enough to see the present league leaders through to a narrow but well won triumph over last season's champions at Caroline Hill on Saturday.

Kitchee won because they had steadiness and experience in vital positions — and KMB lost because they lacked speed and pace where it was needed most.

The game was marred by an unfortunate late accident to Sze To Yiu who injured his arm in making a sliding tackle. He was taken from the field in great pain and did not return.

KMB had their chances to score but apart from the fact that they had a goal disallowed, they also had the sad experience of seeing crack shot Lee Tai-fai missing a penalty kick... or rather having it saved by Cheung Koon-hing who is getting quite a list of vital penalty saves to his credit.

GOOD WINNERS
The Busmen will long regret the circumstances of this defeat but Kitchee were good winners on the day. They suited their play to the occasion and their rock like defence was too good for lackadaisical inside forwards Sze To Man and Lee Tai-fai... and too long-in-the-tooth for some of KMB's immature youngsters.

The game was played in fine spirit by both sides and the big crowd had the satisfaction of watching one of the much vaunted big-games living up to all that had been forecast for it.

Jackie Cooper is around Hollywood, does occasional small roles, sells properties and houses in his spare time of which he has plenty.

Another moppet who has grown up is Elizabeth Taylor,

World's No 1 Player



One of the biggest surprises in this year's entrants for the All-England Badminton Championships at Empress Hall later this month, is the return of a man who has been named by many as the World's No. 1 player, Wong Peng-moon. He won the men's title in England in 1950, 1951 and 1952, but has not been over here for two years. This picture shows Wong Peng-moon practising at the Wimbledon Badminton Club in readiness for the Championships.—Central Press Photo.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO... A PARLOUR GAME IN HOLLYWOOD

By MICHAEL RUDDY

Beverly Hills—

Whatever happened to—? This is a sort of parlour game in Hollywood, played at cocktail parties or when you are tired of scrabble and scandal. It came up this week when I asked a producer whatever happened to Margaret O'Brien?

"I'll tell you, Michael. She's blossomed into a beautiful brunette and she's playing her first adult role of her acting career in a 'Climax' television show on CBS with Jeffrey Hunter and Edward Arnold in 'Scout of the Sun,' he said. I saw the show. She has indeed blossomed. Fills a sweater in a Lana Turner way.

I wondered about Jane Withers, who last week announced she'd bought a 24-room mansion in Bel Air. Although she has enough to live on comfortably, Jane still hankers for a career. "I'm doing a top role in 'The Giant' this summer," she said when I got her on the phone.

Meanwhile Deanna Durbin has retired, lives in the South of France, and is pleasantly plump. She hated to diet for the cameras. Helen Parrish, who stars in "Three Smart Girls," is a female com-pere in television.

SHIRLEY TEMPLE

Probably the wisest of all the child stars is Shirley Temple, who lives near San Francisco, dabbles in interior decorating and design, keeps house for her husband, George Black, and brings up her daughters sensibly — away from Hollywood.

In television as a producer, New York. Would like to do a film but gets no offers, he says.

Jackie Coogan? He lives at Malibu, hopes some day to do this life story on the screen but cannot persuade Charles Chaplin to give him a clearance for Charles Chaplin Jr to play him in the Coogan story.

Jackie Cooper is around Hollywood, does occasional small roles, sells properties and houses in his spare time of which he has plenty.

Another moppet who has grown up is Elizabeth Taylor,

WEEK-END SOFTBALL

DEFENCE FORCE DUTIES UPSET WEEK-END SOFTBALL FIXTURES

Only four Softball games were played according to schedule at King's Park, yesterday. The Senior "A" League match between Braves and St Joseph's and the Junior play-off between Comets and Ducks were postponed because of the absence of players at Defence Force duties.

In the Ladies' Senior play-off series, Pandarettes upset the Wahooes Bees 12-6, and Wahooes Aces handed the South China Ladies a 7-3 decision. Lady Athletics of CAA trounced the Colleys Bees 23-7 in the Junior division.

Pandas Junior eliminated Lynxes 11-7 in the Junior Consolation Knock-Out Competition to enter the third round and Saints played a friendly match with the Warriors in which Saints won 9-1.

Wahooes Aces and South China clashed in the morning and the former took an early 2-1 lead in the opening frame. The Chinese girls levelled the score at 2-2 in the second, but the Owls forged ahead 4-2 at the end of third.

The ex-champions were able to act one run each in the next three innings, while the Nam Weh ladies only tallied once in the fourth but were shut out during the rest of the game. The final score was 7-3 in favour of the Owls.

The teams were:

Wahooes 'A'—D. Maddox (p), P. MacDonald (c), S. Correa (1b), G. Dragon (2b), Y. Silva (3b), I. Starkey (ss), A. Mendonca (4r), F. Collico (cf), M. Rozario and T. Campos (rf), SCAA—Y. C. Kwan (p), E. Babila (c), C. Lai, (1b), P.

Wei, (2b), G. Chan, (3b), H. Leung, (ss), C. Y. Lam, (1f), J. Y. Kwong, (cf), S. Siu, (rf).

HEAVY PRESSURE

CAA Ladies won the opening match of the Junior Series by trouncing Colleys Bees 23-7. The latter started well to lead 4-1 in the first but crumbled under the heavy pressure of the Lady Athletics. In the later frames the Braves Ladies Athletics amassed seven in the second, nine in the third and six in the fourth for a total of 23 runs, while the Bees netted two more in third and one in the fifth for seven.

The line-ups were as follows: CAA—T. H. Lung (c), M. K. Chan (ss), L. W. Chan (1b), S. W. Yuen (1f), S. Y. Wong (3b), D. L. Wong (p), H. Ismail (cf), W. Y. Loui and C. Y. Chan (2b), S. Y. Tze and E. Lee (rf), Colleys 'B'—R. C. Matos (p), S. Cheng (c), A. Collico (2b), C. Carvalho (ss), M. Brito (1b), M. Ribeiro (3b), H. Figueiredo (cf).

Pandarettes surprised the spectators by overwhelming the more favoured Wahooes Bees 12-6. The former won the toss and took the field first. The Bees started well as Sheila Collico, Theresa Roza-Pereira, Tracy Brown and Angela D'Aquino toured the diamond. But the Pandarettes were in good hitting form and retaliated with the same number of runs by L. S. Yim, S. M. Chu, Amy Cheng and Stella Pih.

Amy Cheng bagged a homer and Stella Pih a two-bagger. Both sides retired quickly in the second and Angela D'Aquino put the Bees ahead in the third.

Pearl Chan of Pandas lovelied it five all in the fourth and her team started rallying in the fifth. C. H. Lee and Stella Pih completed the trip around bases after one down but the Bees pulled a double play to stop further damage.

JOURNEY HOME

Myra Cruz of Wahooes was called out first in the sixth on a doubtful interference which dismayed her team. Though Evelyn Alonso was able to journey home, to narrow the gap to 6-7, Pandas were on the run again.

Betty Tong got on with a hit and stole second. She reached third on a sacrifice and was batted in by L. S. Yim's timely hit.

Yim advanced to second on an error, and on a wild pitch and a pass-ball she cleared the plate.

Amy Cheng then drew a walk after two out. C. H. Lee and Stella Pih then forced a series of costly mistakes on the field side and all three of them cleared the rubber, before the final side out.

The score was 12-6 with Pandas leading comfortably by six runs.

During the last canto, the Owls were struggling hard. However, the Pandarettes made no errors and turned back their opponents' fruitless struggle to consolidate their victory.

The Teams:

Pandas Ladies—P. Chan (p), P. Chang (c), C. H. Lee (1b), B. Tong (2b), L. S. Yim (3b), A. Cheng (cf), E. Pih, (1f), S. M. Chu (cf), E. Chan (rf).

Wahooes 'B'—E. Alonso (p), S. Collico (c), A. Aquino (1b), T.

Roza-Pereira (2b), M. Cruz (3b), C. Lee (ss), F. Ferreira (1b), T. Brown (cf), M. Lewis (rf).

Pandas Junior eliminated the Lynxes 11-7 to enter the third round of the Junior K.O. Series. Pandas took advantage of their opponents' shaky start and chalked up seven runs in the first inning. They made another three in the second and one in the third to a total of eleven. The Lynxes rallied in the second and fifth and netted seven runs. H. Honnibal bagged a homer for the Pandas.

Saturday results were as follows: The Blackhaws Bees downed the CAA Jr. 13-9 in the Jr. Play-Off Series. Mico Guan of the former homered. P. I. Dodgery stamped out SCAA Jr. 14-13 in a close 2nd round K. O. game. T. C. Lau of the latter also homered.

TRAINING TIMES

The following are the times recorded by race ponies at Happy Valley during training gallops on Saturday morning.

Advance

ment 32.4 102.4 131.4 201 29.1

Victory 35 108 141.2 231.2 30

Anna 34.2 107.1 132.2 200.2 28

Asia Pic 32.1 104.1 132.2 20.2

Atomic 35 108.2 135 28.3

Avoca 37.2 108 149.4 219.2 29.4

Beat That 33 101.4 131 20.1

Beautiful 34.1 102.2 131 20.3

Star 31.3 101 122 21.1

Buzzing 30 106.3 128.4 20.2

Blossom 32.3 103.2 132.2 20

Bright 30.4 99.1 123 20.2

Knight 32.1 100.1 130 20.1

Brutus 34.3 103.2 135.4 20.1

Char Tan 30.2 99.2 127.4 20.1

Chatterbox 34.2 102.1 132.4 20.4

Crown 37.3 111.2 149.2 21.0 20.3

Witness 31.3 101 123 20.2

Queen 31.3 101 123 20.2

Reggie King 32.3 101 123 20.2

Reverend 32.1 100.1 128 20.3

Enamel 32.1 101.3 20.2

Early Sun 30.3 101.3 120.3 20.2

Exposition 38.4 114 140 32

Exp. Chai 37.2 101.3 20.1

Field 32.3 101.3 130 20.1

Marshall 32 100 137.2 20.2

Forward 32.3 101.4 132.1 20.1

View 30 100.2 137 27.3

Success 31.4 101 130 20

Full Ahead 30.2 100.1 124.4 20.2

Full View 30.2 100.2 124.4 20.2

Full of 30.2 100.2 124.4 20.4

Smith 33.1 101.4 121.3 27.3

Knight 32.4 99.4 132 20.1

Church 33.1 101.1 122.2 20.1

Hallmark 30.3 111.4 120.3 20.4

View 34.2 100.4 124.4 20

Full 30.2 100.2 124.4 20.3

Full 30.2 100.2 124.4 20.3

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Full 30

MANCHESTER CITY—THE TEAM OF THE YEAR WITH A REVOLUTIONARY PLAN

By TOM FINNEY

The semi-finals of the FA Cup, only one stride away from Wembley. I know just how all those 44 keyed up players feel. A bad bounce, a fluke shot, a doubtful offside decision, all these things can sway a Cup-tie. But whether Manchester City win, lose or draw—and I know many people are tipping them for the Cup—they are in my view the football team of the year.

I think we all expect high powered shows from Wolves. They have had a great team for years. But Manchester City have been among football's stragglers until this season, when the Revie-lutionary plan was adopted.

Wherever football is talked—in dressing rooms, on trains, on the way to the ground—the chief topic has been Manchester City's deep-lying centre-forward style of play, with Don Revie as the key man.

I can speak with a little feeling on this subject. The first time I ever saw a centre-forward scheme was in Switzerland in 1947.

The Swiss had a centre-forward named Bickel and an extremely fast inside-forward called Fink. Mr Bickel and Mr Fink gave the England defence plenty to think about. Our problem was should Neil Franklin, our centre-half, shadow the centre-forward, or should he stay back and cover the inside forward lying well upfield to take the through balls from Bickel.

Centre-halves are still facing the same problem with Revie. And it is a problem. Switzerland won that match against England 1-0, and you can tell how successful their tactical plan was because the England team that day consisted of Swift, Scott, Hardwick, Wright, Franklin, Lowe, Matthews, Carter, Lawton, Mannion, Lawton.

You must admit that wasn't a bad England side. But even so, they were unsettled by the deep-lying centre-forward plan.

The next time I saw it in action was when Hungary tore England to shreds at Wembley in 1953, when they won 6-3. That day Hidegkuti, who wore the No. 9 shirt of a centre-forward, was back inside the England players, yet he still had the stamina to get to the other end to score three goals.

NOT FOR ALL

Why doesn't every team adopt the deep-lying centre-forward style of play? Because it just isn't possible, whatever football fans may think.

Last season West Bromwich Albion had Ronnie Allen playing deep, picking up the loose balls and whipping them through for his inside men. When we played West Bromwich in the Cup Final, this style of play was considered very carefully by the Preston team.

We decided that Allen must not be chased by our centre-half, Joe McKinnon. He was to close the middle, no matter who was coming through. The nearest wing-half, or nearest man, was to challenge Allen when he had the ball.

Well, we lost the final. But I still think it is the best way of combating the deep-lying centre-forward style whether played by Ronnie Allen or Don Revie.

The difference between Allen and Revie is this. Allen is a very quick mover. Revie, a former inside forward and wing half, goes much deeper for the

ball, and he often stops it before sending it on its way.

Preston were the first side to play against the Revie plan. On the very first day of this season, Manchester City came to Deepdale and were beaten 3-0. Everyone thought it was the death of the Revie plan, and that Revie, a brilliant ball player, would soon be back at wing-half or inside-forward.

To the everlasting credit of the Manchester City club they refused to be panicked into ditching their new-found plan. The only reason Preston beat them was because our wing halves Docherty and Forbes, and the inside forwards Baxter and Foster were right on top of their form. We had four men playing brilliantly in the no-man's-land in midfield. Above all, our centre-half, Marshall, was never once pulled out of the middle.

But City perfected their plan, and when Preston were at Maine Road later in the season we lost 3-1 and it could have been six or seven. The Revie plan had come to stay, and I believe while we have players of Revie's calibre to carry it out we will have deep-lying centre forwards in our game for many years.

Frankly, I think it is a fascinating game to watch. That's why I think City are the team of the season. Revie is really playing the role which Alex James, my old idol, used to adopt with Arsenal.

FIRST ESSENTIAL

The first essential is positional sense. There is no use having a man of exceptional stamina if he is running all over the field and yet never in the clear to give and take a pass. Here lies the genius of Revie. He watches him when Trautmann throws the ball out. There is Revie unmarked with plenty of room to collect the ball.

The next important factor in the plan is that Revie must always be in close contact with his wing halves. Paul and Barnes, so that he can give and take the short pass.

Watch how Revie takes the ball upfield in this way, from his own 18 yard line. One of the secrets of Revie's success is the fact that Ken Barnes, his right half, is a very good attacking player, who is always close to Revie to help him when he is in trouble.

The third most important point is that the deep-lying centre-forward must not only be a clever ball player able to beat a clever ball player able to beat a man, but he should be able to place his long passes with slide rule accuracy. If he places a bad pass his own side will be in trouble.

Add to this a bounding energy and terrific love of the game, which makes a man run miles in a match, even when he is not touching the ball, and there you have the chief essentials of the Revie plan.

So please don't think this plan is the panacea for all our Soccer ills. It is a plan which will work only when you have a master footballer like Revie or Ralph Carter or Manning to spray out the passes accurately. Without that key link, the plan falls flat.

But I am sure all football lovers will agree with me that when Manchester City's team elicits into action it is sheer Soccer artistry with the most positions and Revie tearing the opposing defence wide open with his passes.

Just as Spurs, Manchester United and Wolves have added greatly to Soccer prestige by their great displays in English League Soccer, so I am sure Manchester City's team will go down as one of the most fascinating to watch in recent years.

The more styles of play we get in English Soccer the more entertaining it will be—and it is the surest way I know of bringing in the crowds.

COACHING HINT

You can often pick out a class team by their slick moves from a throw-in. The bad side merely throws the ball in, as though it is a chore they don't relish. The good side uses the throw-in to start moves.

There are a variety of these. Talk it over with the wing halves, and work out an understanding. Let the wing-half signal: if he picks the ball up with his left hand, he will be going with the right hand. If he picks it up with both hands he will be operating a third move, and so on.

One of our moves at Preston is for Terry Docherty to be ready to take the throw-in. By pre-arranged signal my inside partner, usually Bobby Foster, and myself run towards Docherty. Instead of the ball coming straight to my feet, it is thrown into the open space where Foster turns quickly to collect the ball as it falls over my shoulder. It is all a question of timing. But I'm not going to tell you the signal which Docherty gives us for this move!

Executive Officers Win Friendly Cricket

In a friendly cricket match held last Saturday, at the KGV School ground the Hongkong Government Executive Officers beat the Navy Stores by 52 runs.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
J. Heywood, c. Sanders b. 0
N. Davies, c. Davies b. 23
D. Readman, b. Bradley c. 37
K. Forrow, c. Davies c. b. 0
Bradley, c. Sanders b. 0
R. Thompson, c. Sanders b. 15
C. Davies, c. Davies b. 15
A. Bailey lbw b. C. Davies 3
S. Readhead, b. Torrington 17
T. Reynolds, c. N. Davies b. 12
J. Mitchell lbw b. Bradley 0
M. Sergeant, c. Hammond b. 0
C. Davies, c. Davies b. 6
L. Thomas Not out 6
Extras 1

NAVY STORES
M. Torrington, lbw b. 22
Thompson, c. Davies b. 1
E. Bradley, lbw b. Mitchell 1
P. Maddock, c. b. Mitchell 8
C. Davies, b. Thompson 15
H. Sanders, c. Readhead b. 9
Readman, c. b. Readman 11
E. Frowell, c. b. Readman 2
R. Roberts, c. at wkt. b. 2
Thompson, c. Readman b. 1
W. McKinnon, Not out 1
N. Davies, c. at wkt. b. 1
F. Readman, Not out 0
J. Hammond, b. Readman 0
Extras 4

Total 125
Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-50, 3-50, 4-71, 5-89, 7-105, 8-108, 9-112.

BOWLING ANALYSIS
O. M. R. W.
Torrington 9 1 30 1
N. Davies 4 0 20 4
Bradley 0 0 28 4
Sanders 2 0 9 3
C. Davies 1 0 15 3

NAVY STORES
M. Torrington, lbw b. 22
Thompson, c. Davies b. 1
E. Bradley, lbw b. Mitchell 1
P. Maddock, c. b. Mitchell 8
C. Davies, b. Thompson 15
H. Sanders, c. Readhead b. 9
Readman, c. b. Readman 11
E. Frowell, c. b. Readman 2
R. Roberts, c. at wkt. b. 2
Thompson, c. Readman b. 1
W. McKinnon, Not out 1
N. Davies, c. at wkt. b. 1
F. Readman, Not out 0
J. Hammond, b. Readman 0
Extras 4

Total 73
Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-12, 3-32, 4-48, 5-70, 6-72, 7-72, 8-73, 9-73.

BOWLING ANALYSIS
O. M. R. W.
Mitchell 7 1 25 2
Thompson 7 2 18 3
Readman 7 0 9 5
Forrow 2 0 14 0

Club
(Signed).....

Pan-American Games

Navy Man Wins 1,500 Metres Swim

Mexico City, Mar. 20. American swimmers took up where the track and field athletes left off today as they captured two out of three final events in the Pan American games and came close to a world record in a preliminary heat.

At the same time, Argentina won four out of the seven rowing races, but United States won the other three—including the "big two" in eight-oared crew and sculling singles.

The 1,500-metre swim championship went to Jimmy McLane, the Navy man from Yale University. Wanda Lee Warner (USA) annexed the 200-metre free-style for women, and Hector Dominguez of Argentina won the man's 200-metre breast-stroke.

In the preliminaries for the women's 100-metre butterfly, Betty Mullen, (USA) was clocked 1:10.3—one of the fastest times ever recorded, but slightly short of the world mark.

The other event at the university pool was the three-metre diving championship and that went to favoured Joaquín Capilla of Mexico.—United Press.

Round the Stables with JAMES PARK

Our Babu has the right temperament

TODAY'S REPORT:
GEOFFREY BROOKE



Lincoln entry THE BLESSING at exercise with Jill Collins.

He will have an outing before the 2,000 Guineas and there will be no doubt about him staying the mile.

STABLE STRENGTH

The Lincolnshire Handicap candidate THE BLESSING does not require much work and will be fit enough to do himself justice.

by JAMES PARK

Whether he can stay a mile I do not know, but he is a winner at seven furlongs and horses of that type have won the Lincolnshire in the past.

I know I could well be on a good hiding to nothing, for a walk round the yard is not the same as seeing the horses at exercise. But I could not help thinking that, apart from Our Babu, the strength of the stable lies in the two-year-olds.

There are close on 40, and they make a more appealing than the majority of the three-year-olds. FAIRIE DANCE is typical of her sire Danie. A beautifully balanced filly of medium size, she is all quality, and I could well believe the trainer when he said that she moved well.

PRETORIA is a beautiful filly, and I found it difficult to fault her. She is a daughter of Precipite and takes after him in colour.

PEACEMAKER is a sharp and neatly framed daughter of Fair Trial, who has not lost the knack of siring good-looking stock. There should be no doubt about Peacemaker having a turn of speed, and she looks like coming early to hand.

FAST PACKET is a Precipite colt with a taking outline. It should not be long before he finds his form.

POWERFUL

DEVON MINSTREL is a shapely Tudor Minstrel filly of medium size. There is a sharp look about her and I fancy we shall see her before the season is far advanced.

WINGS OF ARABY is a powerfully built grey daughter of The Phoenix. She may want more time than some of the others, but a little patience will be justified. The neatly framed STANDARD ROSE is well balanced and should be an early winner.

ROMEO is the first foal of the Royal Hunt Cup winner, Val d'Ausa, who was a good mare when at her best. Her son is by Amour Drake and is such a stylish colt that it looks certain the dam will do just as well at the stud as she did on the racecourse.

IMPRESSIVE

I was greatly attracted to BAYARD who is a half-brother to Sunny Bree and Sun God.

PHOTOGRAPHS

by our Staff Photographers

Festival of Music
Red Duster Boxing
R.H.K.D.F. Rifle Shoot
Gaelic Football Match
Governor's Cup Match
Cheero Club Billiards Finals
Kaifong Association Dinner
St. Joseph's Old Boys Dinner
Po Leung Kok Directors' Dinner
New Wing at Home for the Aged
H.K. Technical College Annual Sports
Presentation of Colours to 28th Regt. R.A.F.
Presentation at Grantham Trained College
Gurkhas Beating the Retreat at N.T. Minden Row School Annual Sports
H.K. School of Music Association
The Sea Shall Not Have Them
University of Michigan Club
St. Patrick's Society Dinner
Bellifos Girls' School Sports
All Local Sports
Local Presentations
Local Weddings
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72 LAA "A" Wins Blarney Stone Seven-A-Side Knock-Out Competition

By "PAK LO"

In a rather disappointing encounter on Saturday afternoon the 72nd LAA "A" team beat 25 Field Regt. "A", by 6 points (2 tries) to nil, in the Finals of the Blarney Stone Seven-a-Side Knockout Competition.

The Blarney Stone Shield and a replica was presented to Thomas, the Captain of the winning team, by Lt.-Col. Dowbiggin after the game.

The Fijians were also seen during the afternoon, but in a way they were a distinct disappointment. Everyman was expected a thriller when the Fijians "A", and "B" teams met, but instead of playing Sevens they played touch rugby, which while it showed off their amazing speed, was not what was wanted.

It was officially called Sevens, but only twice in the game did any Fijian tackle an other man.

ONLY SURPRISE
The only surprise of the afternoon was the defeat of the Far East Farm "A" team by the 25th Field "A" Seven.

Quarter-Finals: 25th Field "A" v 42nd Field "A"

In the first few minutes 25th Field "A" scored when Walker took the ball down the wing to score under the posts. 25th Field were five points up.

The 25th attacked again with the ball at their feet but kicked it over the dead ball line. In the second half 25th Field nearly scored again, when they started a three-quarter move from midfield, but one of their players when feet from the line, and absolutely in the clear slipped and measured his length. Although 25th Field won they were not impressive.

Far East Farm "A" v 27 HAA "A"

This was a much better game. In fact it was one of the best of the afternoon. Parkinson, and Tossell, were the stars of the Farmers.

The 27th, attacked from the start, and within a minute were awarded a penalty on the Farmer's 25. They kicked up into the air, but were themselves offside, and the Farmer's cleared.

The 27th pressed back, and on the 25, the ball went loose and one of the 27th snatched it up and dropped a lovely angled goal. 3-0.

Immediately the Farmers swept up the field to 35 yards from the line. There they were awarded a penalty and Parkinson dropped a beautiful goal. 3-3.

ATTACKED AGAIN
In the second half, the 27th attacked again, and a three-quarter move took them to the Farmer's 25. Another three move and they scored near the posts. The conversion was missed. 6-3.

The Farmers pressed back, but a penalty on the 27th let the latter kick upfield. However, Tossell was there to gather, and whipped down the wing to the 27th's 25. The ball came down a screen, to Parkinson who scored the posts. Parkinson took the kick, and the change was disallowed as one of the 27th shouted at the wrong moment. Parkinson took the kick, and the change was disallowed as one of the 27th shouted at the wrong moment. Parkinson had a momentary

mental aberration and attempted to release the ball. So the kick was disallowed. This brought the end of the second half with the score still 6-6.

In the extra time the Farmers took the ball upfield to within fifteen yards of the goal, and then their three away to score and win.

72 LAA "A" v 48 Club "A"

This game was played at a good pace, and in the seventh minute 72nd opened the scoring when Thomas took the ball at his feet to his opponents 25, and Patterson took it from there and dropped on it as it crossed the line. 3-0.

The 72nd pressed in the second half and Patterson converted a penalty on the 48 club's 25. 6-0.

72nd then missed another penalty a minute later, and then Coley of the 48 Club looked like scoring near the end, but was well tackled by Brentford.

The next game was the one between the Fijian "A" and "B" teams. Some idea of the amount of tackling done may be gathered from the final score of 16 points to 8. All the same it was an amusing game, but spectators gaped as some of the Fijians took place kicks with bare feet.

The Final: 72nd LAA "A" v 25th Field "A"

The 72nd pressed from the start and never looked like losing. Although they missed two penalty attempts in the first three minutes, they made up for it very shortly when Patterson scored in the corner after a nice run from a scrum on the 25th Field's 25. 3-0. The conversion was missed.

PRESSED BACK
25th Field pressed back, and on the 72nd 25 won a line-out and kicked ahead. The ball rolled over the line and one of the 25th Field dived at it. To settle any arguments about this I was at this point, directly above the 72nd's in goal area, and the man definitely failed to touch the ball down.

In the closing minutes of the second half the 72nd hammered home their win, when from a scrum Collins went blind to score well out. The conversion was missed. 6-0.

BLARNEY STONE FINALISTS

72 LAA "A": Miller, Patterson, Brentford, Collins, Thomas, Taylor, Abbottson.
25th Field "A": Bates, McClean, Walker, Rawson, Northcote, Turner.

This almost brings us to the end of the rugby season for yet another year. Usually there is only the Club versus Wayfoong game to play, but the RAF have challenged the Army to one final game.

The Wayfoong-Club game will take place on Wednesday March 23, at 6.30 p.m. on the Club ground, and the Army-RAF match will take place on the Club ground on March 28, at 6.00 p.m.

CHINA MAIL

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STAMPS
STAMP ALBUMS: Collection Building: series New stock now available. St. Paul, South China Morning Post Ltd., 22nd Floor, Street, and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

NOTICE
HONG KONG CLUB
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 107th Yearly General Meeting of the Members of the Hong Kong Club will be held at the Club House on Tuesday, 29th March 1955, at 5.30 p.m.

By Order of the Committee,
K. W. KIRBY,
Secretary.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES
"PATROCLUS"
Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at Hutter's Wharf from 10 a.m. on March 22 and 23, 1955, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 19, 1955.

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NOTICE
THE KOWLOON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
Annual General Meeting
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Monday, 21st March, 1955 at 6.00 p.m. in the Green Room of the Peninsula Hotel, Kowloon.
All members of the Association are earnestly requested to attend.
AGENDA
1. President's Address.
2. Adoption of Annual Report and Accounts.
3. Election of Officers and Members of the General Committee.
4. Any other Business.
By Order of the General Committee,
H. M. G. FORSGATE,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 8th March, 1955.

NOTICE
VEHICULAR FERRY
Owing to repairs to Piers, the Vehicular Ferry Service will be suspended as follows:
Thursday Evening the 17th March, 1955
The Service will be suspended from 9.00 p.m. to 1.00 a.m.
Friday Morning the 18th March, 1955
The first ferry will commence at 7.20 a.m. instead of 6.20 a.m.
Tuesday Evening the 22nd March, 1955
The Service will be suspended from 7.00 p.m. to 1.00 a.m.
Wednesday Morning the 23rd March, 1955
The first ferry will commence at 7.20 a.m. instead of 6.20 a.m.
Thursday Evening the 24th March, 1955
The last ferry will leave at 12.00 Midnight instead of 1.00 a.m.
During the above-mentioned suspension Passenger Ferries will be operated as usual.
THE HONG KONG & YAUWAT FERRY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1955.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES
"PATROCLUS"
Damaged cargo on this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at Hutter's Wharf from 10 a.m. on March 22 and 23, 1955, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, March 19, 1955.

Icy Winds Sweep US Plains

Chicago, Mar. 20.
Snow and cold winds swept through the Great Plains today as winter delivered a final punch before giving way to spring.

A tornado struck in a rural area of Arkansas near the town of Subiaco. No deaths or injuries were reported but the police said a number of buildings were unroofed, including a barn housing 3,000 chickens.

Officers said the chickens were "gone with the wind." Spring arrives officially at 4.36 a.m. (0935 GMT) tomorrow with the Vernal Equinox—or when the centre of the sun is directly over the Equator.

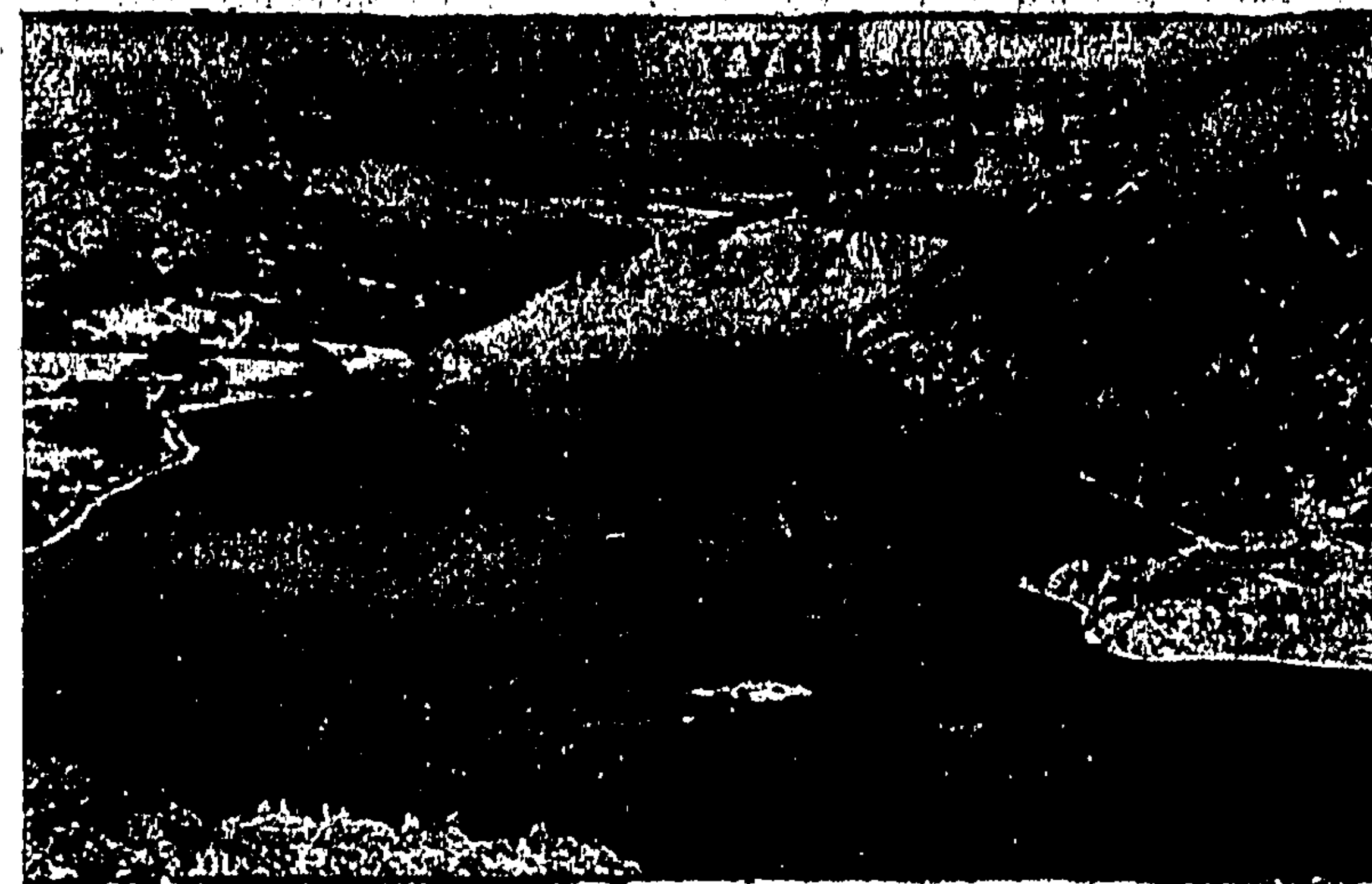
But there was nothing spring-like about the weather that howled out of the Northern Rockies and knifed across the Great Plains into the Midwest.

Livestock and highway warnings were issued for parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Oklahoma, Iowa, New Mexico, Nebraska and Southern Wisconsin.

The snow was expected to accumulate two to five inches in these areas with the possibility of 10 inches in some sections. A strong northerly wind caused considerable drifting snow.

Temperatures plunged sharply, as much as 30 and 35 degrees from warmer weather yesterday. The mercury dove to eight above zero at Minot, North Dakota. United Press.

WORLD WATER RECORD BID



An aerial view of Ullswater in the Lake District of Northern England where the late Sir Malcolm Campbell's son, Mr. Donald Campbell, will attempt to regain the world water speed record once held by his father. The present record is held by American Stanley Sayers at nearly 180 miles per hour. The dotted line marks the exact route which will be taken by Campbell in his speed boat "Bluebird". The distance indicated is four miles but the actual distance to be counted for record purposes is just one mile.—Express Photo.

US Fears Reds Might Develop New Weapon

Washington, Mar. 20.
The greatest fear of United States military planners is that Russia might develop a surprising new weapon, an Air Force expert told a House Appropriations Committee in evidence released tonight.
"I think right now that in the next five or six years, the Russians are perfectly capable of contriving us with a technological surprise with a new military weapon," said Lt. General Donald Pitt, Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Development.
He said "The thing we worry about most" was the possibility of such a weapon, adding "The balance now of qualitative superiority in our weapons is such that I think the international situation could be changed dramatically if such an incident were to occur."—Reuter.

Bodgies And Widges Wage Anti-Social War

Melbourne, Mar. 20.
Vandalism is a grave and growing problem in the cities of Australia today.

The vandals—mostly young delinquents—are costing the country millions of pounds every year. Wrecked telephone booths, smashed street lamps and slashed railway-carriage seats are examples of the wanton destruction of public property that is causing concern among city officials.

Local authorities, particularly in the two major cities, Sydney and Melbourne, consider it their most pressing problem. They say that the incidence of vandalism is considerably higher in Australia than in most other countries.

Worst offenders, they add, are the "Bodgies" and the "Widges" of Australia.

USED COFFEE-SHOPS
"Bodgies" and their girlfriends, "Widges," used to make coffee-shops their meeting places. Recently, they have discovered church community centres.
"They will not make use of any of the facilities provided. They simply prowl restlessly around the club all night," said Miss Gwen Evans, a "leader" in a Methodist Church community centre. She added that the club had been inundated by crowds of "very difficult young people." Many of them were on probation. Most of them were "anti-social, anti-police, anti-everything."

Miss Evans said that the young people were divided up into local gangs or factions. "We spend a great deal of time keeping them from open warfare," she continued. "The situation is like dynamite. It could blow up at any moment, but so far we have had only minor brawls and a few broken windows."

Outside the community centre, she stated, the gangs have fought and certain individuals whom the others did not like have been "beaten up." They all drink, "even children of 13 and 14," she declared. They appear to be bent on getting hold of liquor at any time they like, Sundays included.
The Rev. Arthur Oliver, a clergyman who has taken a particular interest in juvenile delinquency, believes that delinquency is spreading beyond the slums. "Australians youths are tougher than any I have seen overseas," he said. "They are hard and destructive and they don't fight Marquis of Queensberry rules."

WORKERS DIVIDED
Social workers are divided on what is the best approach to the problem. One school of thought believes that Australia's young delinquents should be treated as criminals and advocates "get-tough" policy.

But by far the greater majority of social workers believes that the main trouble is one of environment. "Drunkness and family disputes are the main causes of delinquency. The home is the root of the trouble. Child delinquency is parental delinquency," said one social worker. "Some Sydney homes are filthy. They breed delinquency," said another.

An article in the Melbourne Argus said that the type of offences committed by juvenile delinquents was becoming continuously more serious. The writer suggested that Melbourne may be moving toward the young "gangsterism" that flared up in Chicago in the twenties.

He said that the remedy rests largely with social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists. But the most important need is proper parental care for children.—China Mail Special.

Youths Told To Oppose Paris Pacts

Berlin, Mar. 20.
East German Premier Otto Grotewohl today urged West German youth to oppose the Paris agreements by force.

He was speaking at a Youth Congress held here today against remilitarisation. He gave an assurance that any young West German who took refuge in the Soviet Zone would not be "forced to enrol in the People's Police" and would be able to follow peaceful occupations.

To a proposition made by a West German delegate, that a law be passed by the Democratic (East German) Republic authorising the inhabitants of the Soviet Zone to refuse compulsory military service, Grotewohl replied: "We have something much better than that. We have a law which punishes all preparation for war as a crime."—France-Press.

ATATURK'S PRESENTS

Ankara, Mar. 20.
Officials have opened three iron safes in the Agricultural Bank at Ankara which contain the golden keys, swords, medals and other presents given by the heads of foreign states to Kemal Ataturk, the first President of Turkey.

The presents are to be moved to Ataturk's marble mausoleum and museum in Ankara.—China Mail Special.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



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"This situation" calls for a
San Miguel

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere, which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mail can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

MONDAY, MARCH 21
Philippines, 3 p.m.
Thailand, 3 p.m.
Malaya, 3 p.m.
Indonesia, 3 p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 22
Japan, 8 a.m.
Pakistan, Middle East, Great Britain, 9 a.m.
Philippines, 10 a.m.
Formosa, 11 a.m.
Japan, 11 a.m.
Thailand, India, Africa, Noon.
N. Rhodesia, Australia, New Zealand, 3 p.m.
Korea, 4 p.m.
Formosa, Japan, Okinawa, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Macao, 9 a.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, F.M. Africa, S. Africa (N. & S. Rhodesia & Mozambique) 7.15 p.m. (via L. Marques).
Nepal, 8 p.m.
Macao, 9 p.m.

US Air Force Consolidates Base System

Wiesbaden, Mar. 20. The United States Air Force in Europe (USAFE) has consolidated in the past year a system of 53 operational air bases, extending from Britain to North Africa, employing nearly 250,000 men and women.

The annual cost exceeds 750,000,000 dollars (over £25,000,000). Almost all the continental European bases, with the notable exception of headquarters at Wiesbaden, are west of the Rhine, the main west European river barrier in the path of an aggressor from the East. Wiesbaden is a few kilometers across the Rhine. The other bases further east are mainly for training and transport purposes.

THREE SUPPLY BASES. The United States Air Force in Europe relies on three main supply bases, at Burtonwood, in Northern England, for the northern force; at Chateauroux, in France, for the central force; and at Nouasseur, near Casablanca, in French Morocco, for the southern force.

The Chateauroux base, in particular, has been greatly developed in the past year. Twelve miles of new roads, nine 200-bed dormitories, two dining halls each with accommodation for 2,000 men, two service clubs, hospitals, a gymnasium, and a bowling alley have replaced the former city of tents and made what used to be a most unpopular posting into one of the most desirable in the Command.

Other bases in France are at Chambray and Etain, where completion has been delayed by bad weather. Bases at Billburg, Spangdahlem, and Hahn, in the French Zone of Germany, are also "bubbling" with activity for these two bases.

Further bases are under construction in France at Phalsbourg (Phalsburg), in Lorraine, and Dreux and Evreux, in Normandy.

New aircraft brought into the Command during the year included 111 F-57 reconnaissance machines, the American version of the British Canberra, and the highly secret Matador pilotless bombers.

Economy of materials and more ambitious repairs resulted in the servicing of aircraft which it would have cost 345,000,000 dollars (over £115,000,000), or half the Command's total budget, to replace. The increased use of air transport reduced by one quarter the travelling time for certain supplies.

Over 7,000 more civilians than a year ago are employed in various capacities, bringing the total up to 38,500. This has freed 10,300 Air Force men for other duties. In this connection, it is explained that the civilian does not do the work of one-half airmen, but does not need supporting staff, such as cooks, doctors, and pay clerks.

ONE THIRD. Also, since he lives at home and does not require after duty Air Force care, he costs about one third as much as an airman. A sizable reduction in the flying accident rate was achieved in 1954. Contrary to popular belief, the percentage of accidents for jet aircraft was lower than the general rate of 20 accidents per 100,000 flying hours. Altogether, there were 110 accidents, representing a reduction of 46 per cent. Standard rules have been introduced for the operation of each type of aircraft.

Six hundred rescue missions held 9,000 people in distress, particularly during the floods in Pakistan and the Danube valley, the Austrian avalanche disaster, and the Algerian earthquake.

Television was started in the Command, beginning with Libya, where entertainment is scarce. Five more stations are planned.

De-regulation of German property was speeded up with the approach of West German sovereignty. At Wiesbaden, two hotels are to be built soon for officers in transit. Wiesbaden's Air Force officers and civilians so that four German hotels at present used by the Air Force may be handed back.

The West German Government is paying for the hotels, small skyscrapers with 600 rooms altogether, costing about 3,000,000 dollars. They will be German property when they are no longer needed by the United States Air Force.

FIVE NEW CHURCHES. Five new churches have been built in the Command, and here in Wiesbaden every church is filled on Sundays. Housing programmes have made similar progress, while prebates have been put to good use in North Africa and caravans in France-China Mail Special.

N.Y. STOCK MARKET REVIEW

By Elmer Walzer

New York, Mar. 20. The stock market last week set records for a long time in decline, recovery, heavy sales of volume, and light sales volume, and closed the week with a small average net gain.

The Monday session saw the widest intra-day break since Nov. 11, 1929. At closing the industrial average was down 9.72 points, widest for a close since June 20, 1950, the session after the Korean war started.

Rails on Monday had their widest decline—27 points—since Sept. 3, 1946. Utilities, off 1.06, suffered their worst drop since June 29, 1950. Sales on Monday totaled 4,220,000 shares, the fourth time this year the volume has exceeded 4,000,000 shares.

SWING FORWARD. On Tuesday, the market swung forward almost as fast as it had declined on Monday. The industrial average that day closed with a gain of 7.92 points, widest advance since Sept. 5, 1939, the session after World War II started. Rails and Utilities made smaller recoveries.

At the close on this week Monday after the big break the previous week, the industrial average had a drop for the five declining sessions of 28.22 points; Rails, 11.00 points and Utilities 3.36 points.

Altogether the drop wiped out \$10,000,000,000 from the valuation of listed issues.

What pleased the financial district was the fact that the decline ended just above the lows set on Jan. when another break had followed a rise earlier in the year. This, said the experts, was a successful test of those lows.

NEW BASE. Some others, however, felt that the market might again test the low levels. Others said it was regaining confidence and making a base for a new recovery movement, possibly to new highs.

The subsequent recovery in the past four market days this week lowered the 13.39 points to the industrial average, a recovery of 47 per cent. Rails came back 3.92 points or 30 per cent and Utilities 1.52 points or 45 per cent.

Overall the market regained more than \$4,000,000,000 of the \$10,000,000,000 it had lost on the decline.—United Press.

U.S. Cotton Consumption

Washington, Mar. 20. The Commerce Department reported today that cotton consumed in the seven months ended February 28 totalled 5,129,907 bales compared to 5,107,210 in the like period a year before.

Consumption in February was 720,815 bales compared to 689,540 last February.

Officials reported that cotton on hand in consuming establishments at the end of February totalled 1,877,945 bales compared with 1,821,078 a year earlier. Stocks on hand in public storage, and at companies on correspondent dates amounted to 12,741,920 bales against 11,528,162.

Active cotton consuming spindles at the end of February totalled 1,944,000 against 17,000,000 a year earlier.—United Press.

U.S. RAW COTTON EXPORTS. New York, Mar. 20. Raw cotton exports by destination as reported in bales by the New York Cotton Exchange for the 1954-55 season to March 15 were as follows:

Britain 1,215,000
Continental Europe 1,215,000
Japan 1,215,000
Other 1,215,000
Total 4,850,000
Same period last year 4,850,000

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

Lancashire Cotton Leaders Will Meet Premier This Week GLOOMY REPORT

From RONALD BOXALL

London, Mar. 20.

O.E.E.C.'s gloomy report on West European textile industry will strengthen the hand of Lancashire spokesmen who are meeting Sir Winston Churchill and other Cabinet ministers this week to discuss the crisis in the British cotton industry.

Problems that confront the industry are tending to multiply. The point has been reached where foreign competitors having already deprived Lancashire of much of its export trade, are now threatening it in its own domestic market. And this the industry feels is where the Government should step in with some form of protection.

The root of the trouble is the growing volume of grey cloth imported into Britain from India, a country that was once Lancashire's biggest overseas customer.

These imports which increased from 10 million square yards in 1953 to 133 million last year constitute the greatest threat to Lancashire's livelihood. Unlike imports of grey cloth from Japan which must be re-exported after processing in this country, those from India come into direct competition with Lancashire products in the home market. According to a Government estimate one half of the cloth imported from India last year was re-exported.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES. Lancashire producers wouldn't mind this so much if they were given equal opportunities to compete in the Indian market. But this is far from the case. Imports from India are allowed to enter Britain duty free. But exports from Lancashire are subject to prohibitive import duty on entering India.

Partly as a result of this direct competition in their home market and partly through the loss of export trade to their Japanese rivals, Lancashire cotton mills are facing one of their worst crises.

Mr Kenneth Boardman, prominent Lancashire industrialist, said last week that of fourteen mills with which he is connected "the spinning section has booked less than 50 per cent of its production during the past eight weeks." In the same period one weaving shed with a thousand looms had not been able to book 20 per cent of its production.

FORWARD ORDERS. Forward orders were virtually non-existent, he said, and hundreds of mills in Lancashire were in similar or worse plight.

Mr Boardman has no doubt where the main trouble lies. India, he said, is dumping vast quantities of cloth into Britain helped by her own raw cotton subsidy and the fact that no duty is imposed on her cloth in Britain. Indians on the other hand "are determined not to take any Lancashire cloth."

Reports come in daily of cotton companies which have been forced to close down temporarily or go into other businesses. So far there has been no serious decline in employment but there is little doubt that many mills are keeping workers on their books even though they cannot be fully employed in the hope that trade will pick up again shortly.

ELEVEN OUT. The number of factories engaged in the industry is the lowest for 75 years. Eleven more went right out of business last year. The number of spindles in operation fell by more than 1,100,000 and there were over 2,000 fewer looms at work than in 1953.

The problem would be relieved but not solved if Government restricted the imports of Indian cloth either by raising an

import duty or imposing quota limitations on them. For the threat does not come from this quarter alone. More forward looking cotton men are keeping an anxious watch on the growth of the Pakistan textile industry which may one day, they say, be in a position to compete in the British home market. Hongkong, too, is often mentioned as a potential danger to British textile interests.

But apart from restricting imports from India—which it would be reluctant to do—the British Government can only help Lancashire indirectly. Certainly it will not support a scheme proposed by Mr Harold Wilson, former President of the Board of Trade in the Socialist administration. This visualised a commission to bulk purchase cotton grey cloth from abroad and restrict those imports deemed to be based on "unfair" competition.

The British industry may have to reconcile itself to producing less, but in any case it must concentrate in the future on producing goods of the highest quality. For in this field it has a clear lead over its low cost foreign rivals.

This gives a clue to possible Government action. At the moment the British mills are under strong economic pressure to produce low quality material that escapes purchase tax. If the tax were removed, they argue, they would be able to produce better quality cloth in the home market and thus lay the essential foundation for an expansion of exports.

But the removal of the hated purchase tax would not in itself ensure the survival of the industry. If Lancashire is to improve its products it will need to scrap much of its present obsolete machinery and install up-to-date plant. This will, of course, require individual effort, but Government could help by making it easier for the industry to raise the capital needed for its equipment programme.

Anglo-Japanese Payments. Tokyo, Mar. 20. Japan has proposed to Britain that the two countries should open negotiations in Tokyo on May 26 for a new sterling payments agreement to cover the 12 months period from July 1 this year, the Japanese Foreign Office said.

Foreign Office sources said Japan made the proposal in the talks which were in progress at the British Embassy for an extension of the current Anglo-Japanese Payments Agreement.

Japan was asking Britain to extend the current agreement from March 31 to June 30.

Financial circles expected Britain to make considerable resistance in any new sterling payments agreement with Japan, since the current agreement has set an annual ceiling on Japan's favour—China Mail Special.

International Bank Bonds

Washington, Mar. 21. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development announced here today that it will issue \$15,000,000 worth of bonds on the Canadian market today.

These bonds will bear an interest of 3 1/4 per cent and will be redeemable in 10 years. This is the third operation of this kind to be launched in Canada by the World Bank.—France-Press.

World Trade In Cotton Textiles

Washington, Mar. 20. WORLD trade in cotton textiles increased about ten per cent in 1954, the March review of the International cotton advisory committee showed today.

Exports in the free world were estimated at 5,200,000,000 square yards, a substantial increase over exports in 1952 and 1953.

The committee said Japan showed a marked increase in trade during 1954, although exports still were less than half the pre-war total.

A downward trend in textile exports the United Kingdom has continued uninterrupted since the boom years of 1950 and 1951. Last year the United Kingdom's exports were only one-third of their pre-war volume.

India and the United States are the major exporters of cotton exports. India exported 800,000,000 square yards last year, and the United States exported 805,000,000 square yards.

With the exception of Italy, exports of continental Western Europe now are higher than they were before World War II.—United Press.

Pakistan And Germany Trade Deal

Karachi, Mar. 20. Pakistan today signed an 18-month trade agreement with West Germany.

Under the agreement Pakistan will export jute, cotton, hides, sports goods and carpets to Germany and will import from that country metals, alloys, chemicals, photographic and optical equipment and vehicles.

The Ministry of Commerce announcement said the agreement provided that imports from Germany "will be allowed on as favourable a basis as those of any other country in accordance with import policy."

It also provides for consultation on educational and training facilities for Pakistanis, and on Pakistan's technical assistance requirements.—United Press.

The Bank Of France Statement

Paris, Mar. 20. The Bank of France statement for the week ended Mar. 10, reads as follows:

Total gold holding 2,201,691,436
Total foreign currencies 1,240,858,280
Sight balance abroad 72,400,412,194
Advances to Govt 211,700,000,000
Total bills discounted 1,128,907,450,000
Bank notes in circulation 2,533,732,902,248
Current accounts and deposits 110,117,127,407
—United Press.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE
"VIETNAM" sailing Apr. 9th
"CAMBODGE" sailing May 20th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE
"CANADYER" sailing Mar. 27th
"MEINAM" sailing Apr. 21st

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$500,085. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

BANKS
HSBC Bank 1050 12 1570
East Asia 200

INSURANCES
Union 902 1/2 50
Lombard 100

DOCKS, ETC.
K. Wharf 65
Provident (O) 11 1/2
X. All 1 1/2
Wierstock 7 1/2 7 20 3000 7 1/2

LAND, ETC.
HSBC Hotel 10 30 10 1/2 200 10 20
HSBC Land 65 64 62 1/2 65
X.D. 200 10 60 1/2

Humphreys 22 30 300 22 1/2
X.D. 300 30 1/2

Utilities
Tram X.D. 20 10
Yatmull Fairs 11 1/2
X. All (O) 17 80 11 1/2 17 70
C. Light (N) 14 10 14 30 500 14 20
Electric 30 30 1/2 100 30 1/2
Telephone 31 1/2 32 1/2 2000 32

INDUSTRIALS
Cement X All 20 60 20 70 1500 20 70

STORES, ETC.
Dairy 22 90
Watson 10 40 15 60

COTTONS
Textile Corp 6 20
Nanyang 4 9 1/2

MISCELLANEOUS
Allied 4 02 1/2 4 00 10 000 4 4 1/2
5000 4 1/2
1000 4 2 1/2
4000 4 5 1/2
5000 4 2 1/2

Singapore

Stock Market

Singapore, Mar. 21.

Brokers today quoted to following stock prices:

Opening

British Borneo Petroleum 315 6d
Sincere 315 6d
Consolidated Tin Smelters 300 6d
Ordinary 300 6d
Fraser and Neave Ltd. 300 6d
Ordinary 300 6d
Fraser and Neave Ltd. 300 6d
7 1/2% cum. pref. 400 4 1/2
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Corporation (Colonial 82 50
Raffles Hotel 82 50
Malayan Breweries 43 00
Straits Trading 43 00
Straits Steamship 43 00
United Engineers Ordinary 43 00
Island Cement 43 00
Siam Cement 43 00
Hutchinson 43 00
Petaling Tin 43 00
—with div.—China Mail Special.

The Bank Of England

Statement

London, Mar. 20.

The Bank of England statement for the week ended Mar. 16, reads as follows:

Note in circulation 1,620,274,820
Public deposits 21,200,000
U.S. dollar (per \$1) 400 4 1/2
Private deposits 207,801,629
Government securities 34,123,168
Receipts 41,408,578
Ratio 121
—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unregulated exchange market this morning at the following rates:

U.S. dollar (per \$1) 400 4 1/2
Straits dollar (per \$1) 11 1/2
Indonesian rupiah (per 100) 400
Siam dollar (per 100) 400
Singapore (Straits) 100
Indo-China piastre (per 100) 9 97

London Markets Assume Brighter Look

From Our Own Correspondent

London, Mar. 20.

London stock markets took on a distinctly brighter look last week. With the recovery on Wall Street and the opening of the new account—the first of the Stock Exchange year—buyers returned and "bears" were obliged to run for cover.

Buying back by operators who sold short, gambling on prices falling still further accounted for the sharpness of the week's rise in both Government securities and industrial shares. But the "bear squeeze" was accompanied by a fair amount of genuine investment buying and this became more evident on Friday following Mr Butler's encouraging statement on the effect of the bank rate increase.

Gilt-edged securities led the recovery and some sharp price rises were recorded, especially among long dated stocks. War Loan 3 1/2 per cent went up from £81 1/2 to £85 1/2 and 2 1/2 per cent Consols from £80 1/2 to £84 with other stocks showing rises of £2 and more.

The setback on Wall Street at the beginning of the week kept industrial shares rather depressed at first, but with the opening of the new account on Wednesday coinciding with the strong recovery in the New York market, prices began to move vigorously ahead.

INDEX FALLS

The Financial Times industrial share index which closed the previous week at 175.9 fell slightly to a new 1955 low of 175.7 on Tuesday and then advanced to 181.4 by Thursday's close—a rise of 5.7 in two days.

Most of the top grade equities finished shillings higher on the week. Imperial Tobacco gained 1s 10 1/2 to 82s 1/2, ICI 1s 7 1/2 to 41s 1/2, Unilever 4s 3d to 70s 3d, Turner and Newall 3s 4 1/2 to 10s 4 1/2 and Great Universal Stores 4s 1 1/2 to 52s 7 1/2.

There were numerous other gains ranging to four shillings.

The question in the market now is whether the decline has been finally halted. There can be no certainty about this until the bank rate medicine has worked its way through the economic system. It is true, as Mr Butler pointed out, that it

Purely economic considerations though, are not all that matter in the stock markets. They are often not even an important influence. Some part of last week's buying, for example, undoubtedly stemmed from Mr Bevin's expulsion from the Parliamentary Labour Party which hinted (to say the least) at a resounding Socialist defeat at the next general election.

In other markets oils were dull at first in sympathy with Wall Street, but prices recovered later to show appreciable gains on the week. British Petroleum moved up from 71s to 74s 6d and Shell was 6s 6d better at 128s. The market was unaffected by the European economic Commission's criticism of oil prices.

Copper shares benefited from the general improvement in sentiment as did teas and rubbers. Gold shares also made good gains.

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator — passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"NOREVERETT"

Arrives Mar. 22 from Manila.

Sails Mar. 23 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Chittagong & Calcutta.

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives Mar. 28 from Singapore.

Sails Mar. 28 for Kobe & Yokohama.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator service to Japan, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Penang Gulf.

(Subject to inducement for direct call Korea)

"STAR ARCTURUS"

In Port Loading

Sails Mar. 21 for Kobe, Osaka, Nagoya & Yokohama.

"STAR BETELGEUSE"

Arrives Mar. 24 from Japan.

Sails Mar. 25 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Malacca, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Rangoon, Bahrah, Kuwait & Bahrain.

(LIMITED PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION)

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama with limited liability)

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